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**Graduation ceremony**  
His Highness the Amir yesterday presented certificates to the Kuwait University graduates of 1989-90 academic year. He is being received on his arrival at the Khaldiya complex. (See Page 11)

## French N-plant for Pakistan

Mitterrand approves sale

ISLAMABAD, Feb 21, (AP): French President Francois Mitterrand announced today he had approved the sale of a nuclear power plant to Pakistan, ending a 14-year-old ban on French sales of nuclear energy to this country.

"France pledges to authorize French industrial enterprises ... to make rapidly a technical and commercial offer for the sale of a nuclear power plant to Pakistan," Mitterrand told a news conference.

He did not discuss the proposed size of the plant, although several Pakistani officials who declined to be identified, said the government wanted a plant of at least 900-megawatt power.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto told the same news conference that a French-supplied plant would be "open to all international safeguards and monitoring teams."

## Call to prop up Soviets

WASHINGTON, Feb 21, (Reuters): Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel urged the United States today to help the Soviet Union on its road to democracy and held out the hope of a world based on "the family of man" instead of rival military blocs.

The 53-year-old playwright told a joint meeting of Congress he was convinced Europe was engaged in an irreversible process that perhaps "sooner or later" would allow American troops to come home.

He also said in his prepared speech that Czechoslovakia would like Moscow to remove as many military units as possible prior to his country's elections "in the interests of political stability" and that Prague intended to make "considerable cuts" in its own disproportionate army.

Havel goes to Moscow on Monday for talks on troop withdrawals with President Mikhail Gorbachev.

"The United States could help Eastern Europe 'most of all if you help the Soviet Union on its irreversible but immensely complicated road to democracy,'" Havel said.

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# Punch to Arabs pulled for Israel

## US rights brief wrist-slaps Tel Aviv; blasts Mideast

WASHINGTON, Feb 21, (Agencies): The human rights situation throughout most of the Middle East remained appalling last year and even Israel's democracy was tainted by the widespread mistreatment of Palestinians in the occupied territories, the United States said today.

Publishing its annual report to Congress on human rights world-wide, the US State Department had few good words for Middle East countries. It was especially scathing about Iran and noted a severe deterioration of conditions under which ordinary people had to live in Lebanon.

But the US has watered down its attacks on Israel over its human rights violation.

water down the Israeli section dealing with the brutal treatment of Palestinians.

But "go easy" suggestions by the department to Philip Wilcox, the US consul general in Jerusalem, have failed.

Wilcox has "submitted dozens of well-researched, classified reports (about the occupied Arab lands) ... our sources tell us his reports detail a pattern of abuses that have intensified since last year's report," the investigative reporters wrote.

And despite what high-level officials said about efforts to get Wilcox to "back off" of Israel, Wilcox, "a highly-respected career diplomat, refused to back down."

Anderson and Van Atta also said that Richard Shifter, the State Department human rights office director, then "compromised" with angry Zionists by comparing Israel's record with that of some Arab nations.

"But the Israelis didn't like that, either. They prefer to be ranked in a league with their peers — other democratic nations. However, in such company their human rights record doesn't look too good," the journalists observed.

Referring to the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip where a Palestinian uprising marked its second year last December, the report said: "the human rights situation in the occupied territories remains a source of deep concern to the United States. Overall there were more Palestinian deaths in 1989 than in 1988."

It said methods used by Israel to crush unrest included beatings of detainees which in 10 cases led to their deaths, beatings during house searches, cruel treatment of prisoners, destruction of Palestinian property, demolition of houses, deportation and excessive use of firearms.

There was also a significant rise in violence by Palestinians against fellow Palestinians that accounted for 128 of the 432 intifada-related Arab deaths in the territories.

Israel said today the US government report accused it of mistreating Arabs failed to take account of the "source of the violence" — the Palestinian uprising.

Brigadier-General Amnon Strashnov, Israel's chief military prosecutor, said some details of the US report were wrong but he accepted many of the charges by Israel's closest ally.

"In the end the report presents facts, most of which I accept as correct, and they are not new for us ... it doesn't draw conclusions or present recommendations or harshly criticise in general or basically the state of Israel," he told army radio.

Washington, Feb 21, (AP): China and Nicaragua were sharply criticised by the State Department today in an annual human rights report that found oppression around the world.

The 1,641-page document alleges rights violations in Beijing to student demonstrations in Liberia and disappearances in El Salvador.

Pro-democracy demonstrators were shot down in Beijing June 3-4, and independent observers are cited as challenging the official toll of 20 executions as unrealistically low.

In Burma, men forced to walk ahead of army troops in mine-infested fields are blown up.

The report also finds areas of improvement, most conspicuously in the Soviet Union. "Authorities have adopted a more forthcoming approach to foreign criticism of their human rights record," the report says.

And yet, though the top Soviet leadership no longer fosters anti-Semitism and appears embarrassed by it, "there has been a sharp increase in popular expressions of anti-semitic attitudes," the report relates.

The report found a dramatic deterioration in the human rights climate in China in 1989.

In addition to Beijing, the army killed scores of Tibetans in March in Lhasa and reports of torture of persons accused of "counter-revolutionary crimes" are persistent and consistent. "Conditions in Chinese prisons are invariably harsh and frequently degrading," Congress was told.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry said today it had no new comment on the report. Two weeks ago, however, the ministry said the upcoming report was "based on rumours" and would seriously harm relations with the United States.

Nicaragua's Sandinista government, which holds national elections on Sunday, is sharply criticised for maintaining "an extensive and repressive internal security apparatus" that includes surveillance and infiltration of the political opposition.

"Political and extrajudicial killings are still being reported, the political opposition still suffers considerable harassment and intimidation, the government continues to hold political prisoners and the writ of the security forces still runs deep and wide."

The report described dramatic human rights improvements in Poland, Hungary and East Germany and tentative steps toward reform in Bulgaria. The revolutions in Czechoslovakia and Romania came too late to be assessed in the 1989 report.

## Anti-Semitism on rise in US

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Feb 21, (Reuters): Meir Kahane, the American-born rabbi who leads anti-Arab factions in Israel, said yesterday that anti-Semitism has reached new heights in the United States.

"It is time for American Jews to come home to Israel," Kahane told a news conference.

"Anti-Semitism in the United States has reached new heights," he said, and if there is an economic collapse there will be "terrible attacks on Jews."

## She is still a Muslim: court

AMMAN, Feb 21, (Reuters): Jordan's Islamic appeals court today cleared Muslim women's rights activist and politician Toujan Al Faisal on charges of apostasy.

The case, unprecedented in Jordan, sought to declare Faisal legally incompetent, dissolve her marriage, separate her from her three children and give immunity to anyone who shed her blood.

"It's good that the sharia (Islamic law) court itself declared that I am a Muslim and that the accusations are false," Faisal told Reuters after today's hearing.

## Rights violated around world

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## Weather

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with light to moderate northeasterly to southeasterly wind and some clouds will appear.

State of sea: moderate

High water: 11:30 am, 9:00 pm

Low water: 4:46 am, 3:24 pm

Sunrise: 6:22 am

Sunset: 5:42 pm

Maximum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 19°C 66°F

Ahmad: 16°C 61°F

Falaka: 17°C 63°F

Minimum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 7°C 45°F

Ahmad: 10°C 52°F

Falaka: 10°C 52°F

Maximum temperatures expected:

Kuwait: 20°C 68°F

Ahmad: 18°C 64°F

Falaka: 19°C 66°F

Maximum humidity recorded:

Kuwait: 71 per cent

Ahmad: 68 per cent

Falaka: 71 per cent

The 1990 State Department human rights report treats Israel "with kid gloves" because the last issue angered Israel supporters as well as State Department Secretary James Baker, two investigative reporters said.

Syndicated columnists Jack Anderson and Dale van Atta said the 1990 issue of the annual report was largely watered down at the direction of Baker.

Baker, after attacks by pro-Israeli forces on the highly-critical 1989 issue, of the survey on the rights situation world-wide, told subordinates he wanted "no more surprises," they said.

Anderson and Van Atta said friends of Israel within the Bush administration have tried for four months to

## Kuwait make winning start



**The first goal**  
Wael Sulaiman beats the Bahraini goalkeeper to score the only goal of the match for Kuwait. This was also the first goal of the Gulf Cup soccer tournament. (Photo by Ahmed Barouni)

## Iraq-Syria patch up hopes killed

AMMAN, Feb 21, (AP): Iraqi President Saddam Hussein lashed out at his Syrian rival today, seeking to kill hopes of a reconciliation that would pave the way for an Arab summit.

"We ask that he publicly apologise for his policies and wrongdoings, which harmed this nation, in order for us to believe that he is serious and willing to open a new page," Saddam said of Syrian President Hafez Assad.

The Iraqi leader's blast came in a letter to Jordanian Parliament Speaker Suleiman Arar, who had written to both men urging them to put aside differences and form a united front against Israel.

Syria's state-run news agency had carried the text of Arar's Feb 14 letter, a rare step that excited speculation in the Arab world that the feuding leaders were on the verge of reconciliation.

The dispute has been a major factor blocking an Arab summit which several Arab states have sought.

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## NINTH BRITISH SCHOOLS CONFERENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The Management of the Institute for Private Education (IPE) would like to take this opportunity to extend its sincere thanks and appreciation to Mr Robert Sheffield, Principal of the Gulf English School, for all the hard work he has put into ensuring that this event was such a success.

The conference which was held at the Gulf English School and at the Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel from 29 January, to 2 February, 1990, brought together senior staff from all the English curriculum schools operating in the Gulf area.

Our sincere thanks also to the Kuwait Ministry of Education/Private Schools Department for granting permission for the conference; to the British Embassy and the British Council for their co-operation; to the Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel and last but not least to the owners and directors of the participating schools, lecturers, speakers, exhibitors and conference members.

**The Gulf English School, a member of the Institute for Private Education, is proud to have sponsored this conference.**

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India considering reviewing \$1.8b contract with Airbus Industrie

**Kickbacks were paid in this biggest-ever contract in Indian aviation."**

sophisticated technology required equally sophisticated ground maintenance, which was not available.

Elections were held in Manipur on Feb 12

after examinations, police said.



The Prince of Wales will attend a conference of his business in the community group — a British organisation that's designed to involve business in the revitalisation of local communities.

About 120 chief executives and business leaders from companies around the world will be attending the business conference.

That focus should help Charleston as it again draws the national spotlight to help it recover from the ravages of hurricane Hugo.

After the Charleston visit he travels to Washington and a visit with President George Bush. Picture shows the prince greeting admirers outside the old arch-nuclear building in Charleston. (Reuter wirephoto).

The unrest erupted as the nation marked the anniversary of the deaths of students killed by security forces during demonstrations held in 1952 to demand that Bengali be made an official language of Pakistan.

The country was then known as East Pakistan and was created in the partition of the subcontinent at independence from Britain in 1947. It had a large population than West Pakistan, but was ruled from Islamabad.

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## Long-range flights

## Radiation alarm

WASHINGTON, Feb 21, (Reuters): The danger of radiation exposure for airline crews and other frequent flyers appears to be greater than previously thought and merits further study, a US senator said yesterday.

According to a recent revised Transportation Department report, about one percent of flight crews and passengers who make 100 or more flights a year for 20 years could be expected to die from cancer. That figure was about 17 times higher than the report first estimated.

These deaths would be in addition to cancer deaths from other causes. The danger is greatest for those who fly long-range flights at high altitudes because they face more exposure to radiation from the sun with less protection from the atmosphere, the report said.

"In addition, there is particular risk to the unborn — foetal exposure during weeks 8-15 of gestation greatly elevates the risk of retardation," it said.

"It looks like a serious problem," Senator Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey said at a news conference. "Hopefully we can take a look at that."

The study was done to measure air quality in airliner cabins. It said there was also a danger to crews and passengers from smoking but it was less than radiation.

Smoking will be banned permanently on virtually all US domestic flights starting on Sunday under a law passed last year.

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Costa-Graves shares his award with Czech director Jiri Menzel for his film 'Skylarks on the String'. (Reuters wirephoto)

## 'Music Box' wins award

### Berlin Film Festival

WEST BERLIN, Feb 21, (AP):

The US film "Music Box," starring Jessica Lange as a defence attorney for an accused World War II criminal who is also her father, won a Golden Bear award yesterday at the 40th Berlin Film Festival.

The Golden Bear is the top award at the event, which ranks with the Cannes and Venice Film Festivals as among the most important in the world.

For the first time, the prestigious 12-day festival was held in both East and West Berlin.

"Music Box," directed by Costa-Gavras, shared its Golden Bear with a 1969 Czech work banned for 20 years by Czech authorities — entitled "Skylarks on the String," which criticises the former communist state.

Another Golden Bear went to a special anniversary prize to American director Oliver Stone for his film "Born On the Fourth of July," starring Tom Cruise as a paraplegic Vietnam war veteran who becomes a champion of the anti-war movement.

A short animated film from Italy called "Mistertao" won the third Golden Bear.

All together 22 feature films and 16 short works competed for the Golden Bears, including two other US entries, "The War of the Roses" with Douglas and Kathleen Turner, and "Shadow Makers," starring Paul New-

man.

Seven Silver Bears were presented in various categories. One went to American actor Morgan Freeman and actress Jessica Tandy for the best joint performance in Bruce Beresford's "Driving Miss Daisy."

Another was awarded to Michael Verhoeven as best director for the West German entry "The Nasty Girl." The film deals with the rejection a young woman faces from her home town when she begins investigating her neighbours' Nazi pasts.

East Germany's only competition entry, a film about homosexuals called "Coming Out," won a Silver Bear for its "sensitive handling of the dilemma of minorities — whatever kind," the jury said in a statement released to the news media.

The Brazilian movie Ilha Das Flores, directed by Jorge Furtado, got the Silver Bear for short movie.

British actor Iain Glen got the Silver Bear for acting for his role in silent scream by David Hayman.

A Silver Bear for best movie went to the Soviet movie Asthenic Syndrome, by Kira Muratova.

And a Silver Bear for an "excellent individual performance" went to Xie Fei of China, for a role in Black Snow.

## US smoke off \$52b

### Cigarette ads morally wrong

WASHINGTON, Feb 21, (AP): A new government report yesterday estimated that smoking costs the United States more than \$52 billion a year, largely for health care expenses.

The report, by the department of health and human services, estimated that California, the most populous state, has the highest costs, \$5.9 billion. The economic cost is lowest in Alaska, where it is \$82 million per year.

"I'm especially concerned that we make more progress in reaching young people, women, minorities and blue-collar workers with accurate and compelling information about smoking and its devastating impact on their health," Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan said in a statement accompanying the report.

Presenting the report at a hearing by the Senate labour and human resources committee, Sullivan called

on Tobacco companies to stop targeting women, minorities and young people in their advertising.

Sullivan, in written testimony, said that while Americans have a personal responsibility to protect their health, tobacco companies and smoking advertisers must also be responsible.

"It is high time that we also stopped allowing smoking advertisers such a high hand," he said. "A cigarette is the only legal product that, when used as intended, causes death. Advertisers who disproportionately target women, minorities or young Americans have gone too far. They must stop their irresponsibility."

Sullivan also said advertising agencies and the media should question their involvement with tobacco companies. He said he hoped to see them "step forward to renounce tobacco ads and join in our anti-smoking efforts."

### McMahon

## Kennedy boat survivor dies

SAN DIEGO, Feb 21, (AP): Patrick Henry McMahon, the wounded sailor John F. Kennedy towed to safety after their PT boat was crushed by a Japanese destroyer 47 years ago, has died at the age of 84, family members said.

McMahon, who died Sunday at a convalescent home, was assigned to PT-109 as a machinist's mate 1st class, serving under Kennedy, then 26-year-old lieutenant junior grade and skipper of the patrol-torpedo craft.

The boat was patrolling Blackett Strait in the Solomon Islands when it was rammed by a Japanese destroyer. Two of the 13 crew members died instantly. McMahon was burned severely and was unable to swim.

## PEOPLE AND PLACES

HOUSTON: A Golden Retriever leaped at two armed men and was shot in the shoulder, giving her owner and a neighbour a chance to run to safety.

"There's no question she saved our lives," Chris Dittmar said Monday of his dog, Chelsea, a normally docile, 60-pound (27-kilo) pet. The 2 1/2-year-old dog survived and neighbours treated her to a steak.

Dittmar was near his house chatting with neighbours Bill and Jeanne Riddlehuber last Thursday night when four young men began walking up and down driveways. Dittmar told Mrs Riddlehuber to call the police. Then two of the men walked up and pulled pistols on him and Riddlehuber.

"They had two guns pointed toward our heads and they told us to step out into the street," Dittmar said. "And at that moment Chelsea sensed something wasn't right. She could smell our fear."

"She just leaped between our feet and went after both guys holding guns," Dittmar said. "They lowered the gun from our heads and aimed for her instead. I saw her get hit in the shoulder — I could see her take the slug."

After shooting the dog, the gunmen fired three shots at Dittmar and Riddlehuber, who were able to run into a garage and shut the door. Veterinarians found that the .38-calibre slug had travelled beneath Chelsea's skin and lodged against the chest wall, missing bones and internal organs. The bullet will be removed later this week. (AP)

ALGIERS, Algeria: Cubans would rather eat grass than McDonald's hamburgers to preserve the purity of their communist revolution, Cuban Ambassador Vilas Estrada Lescaille was quoted as saying Tuesday.

"We don't have McDonald's in Cuba, but nobody's starving," Lescaille was quoted as saying in Tuesday's edition of the daily newspaper Horizontes. "We'll eat grass, if necessary, to defend our revolution."

Lescaille appeared to be referring to the recent opening of a McDonald's restaurant in Moscow.

PITTSBURGH: Stormie Jones, the first recipient of a heart-liver transplant, received a second liver in a 10-hour operation, and the 12-year-old girl's new organ appeared to start functioning right away, her surgeon said.

"She tolerated the surgery very well," said Dr Andrew Tzakis, who led a seven-member team of surgeons that performed the operation Tuesday on Stormie at children's hospital of Pittsburgh. "It went very smoothly."

Stormie, who lives in a Fort Worth, Texas, suburb, was listed in critical condition, which is normal following transplants. (AP)

KALAPANA, Hawaii: Officials have an around-the-clock watch on a lava flow from the Kilauea Volcano that is threatening to overrun a 125-home residential area.

Another lava flow from the volcano already has destroyed one home and threatened four others. Residents of the Kalapana subdivision met with Hawaii county

officials Monday to discuss evacuation procedures as lava came within three-quarters of a mile of the development, said Bruce Butts, assistant administrator of Hawaii island civil defence.

"We're in a wait-and-see pattern to see what direction the flow will take," he said.

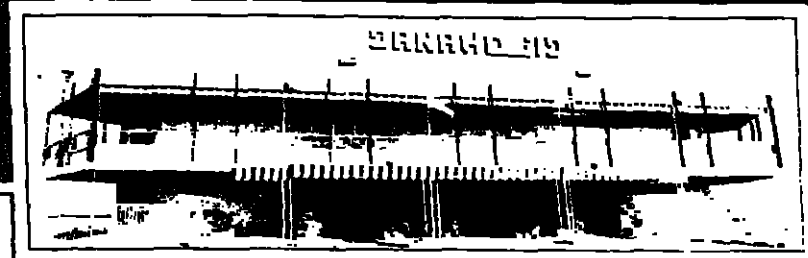
Meanwhile, a separate flow from the volcano that toppled an

abandoned home Saturday went around a second home Monday but continued to pose a threat to the four remaining homes in the isolated Royal Gardens subdivision, said Butts.

Kilauea has claimed 75 homes in Royal Gardens Gardens and the neighbouring communities of Kalapana and Kapa'ahu since the eruption began Jan 3, 1983.

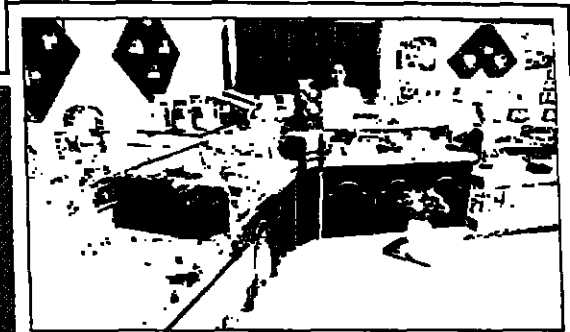
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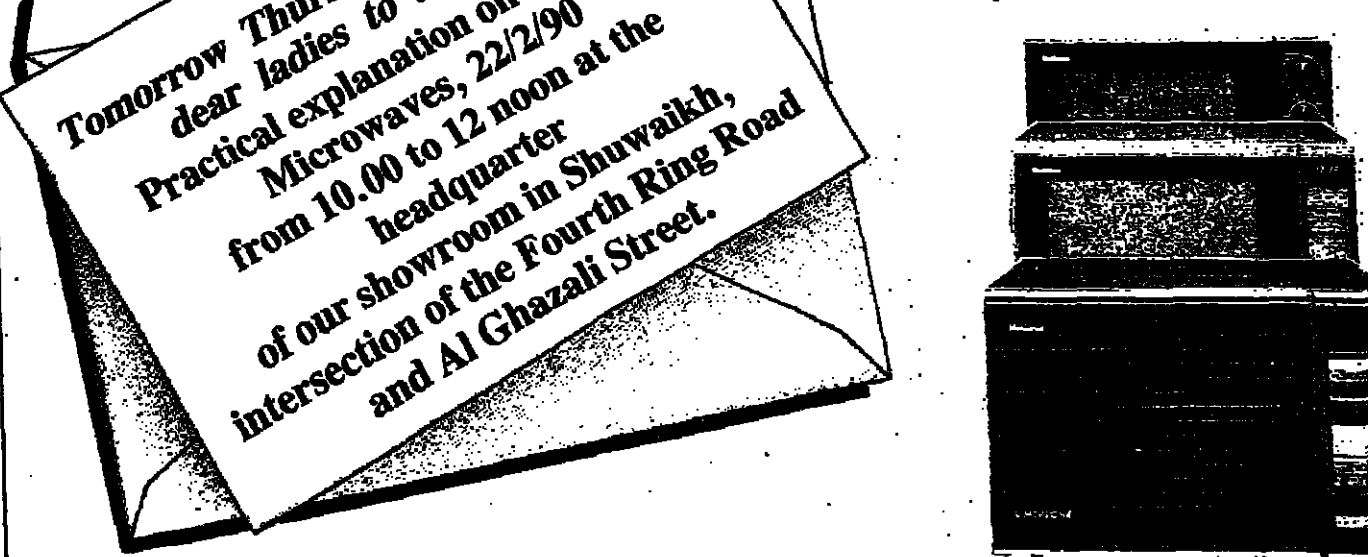
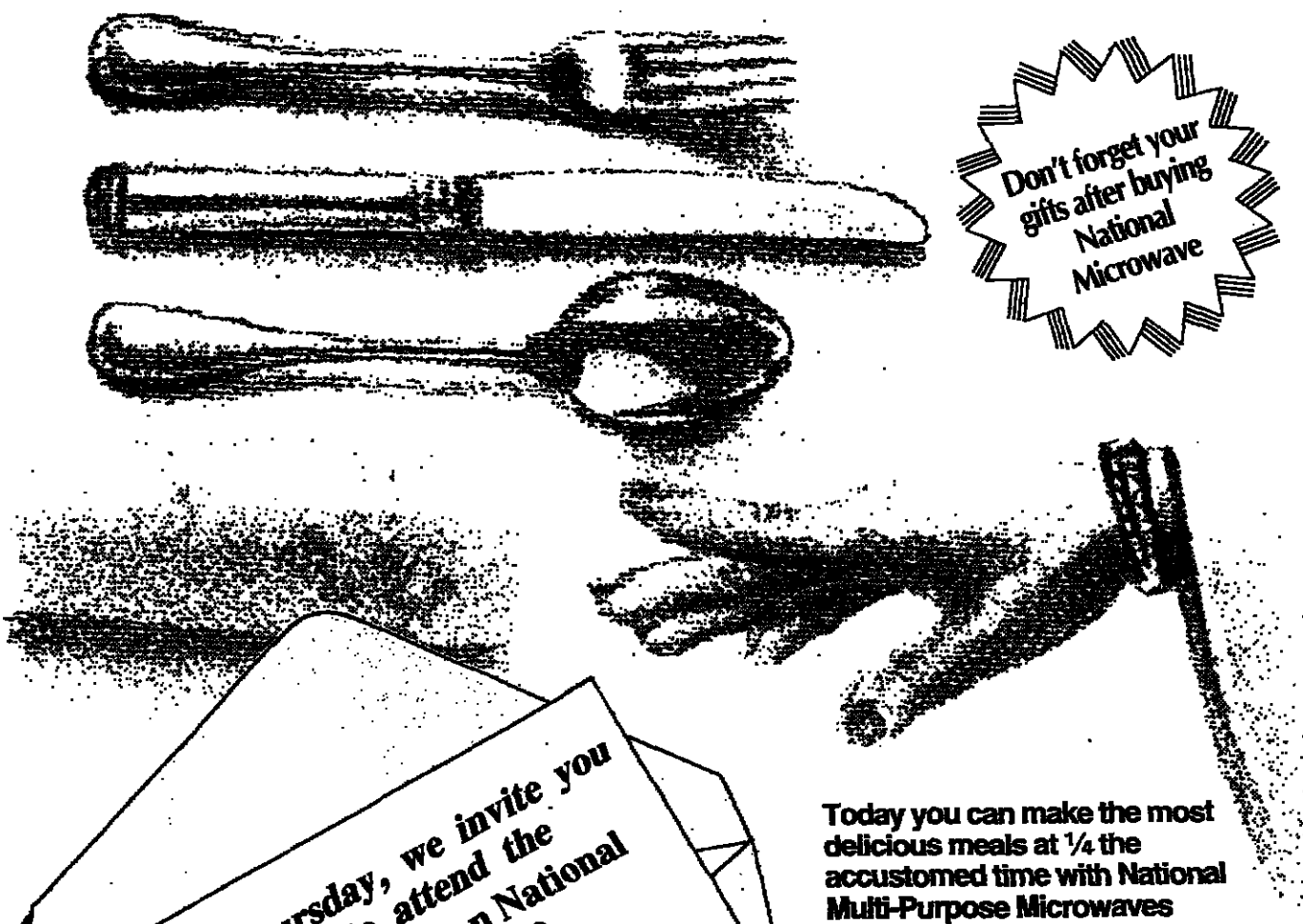
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Castro speaks before the delegates to the National Assembly on Feb 21.  
(Reuters wire photo)

We follow our own way: Castro rejects capitalism

## Cuba reforms to strengthen communism

HAVANA, Feb 21, (Reuters): President Fidel Castro said yesterday that proposed reforms announced by Cuba's ruling Communist Party were aimed at strengthening socialism and one-party rule and he rejected any move towards capitalism or private enterprise.

He said in a speech to Cuba's national assembly that planned improvements to the country's one-party system announced last Saturday had been misinterpreted abroad as a sign that Cuba was giving in to pressure for change.

"The process of rectification is to make us stronger, it doesn't mean we're surrendering, the word doesn't exist in our dictionary," Castro told the assembly.

"Our task is to perfect and strengthen the party, the state and other organisations," he said.

But he added: "Don't let anyone believe for a minute that we're going over to capitalism, to private ownership."

Castro appeared to distance himself from moves by the Soviet Communist Party towards multi-

party politics and from Western-leaning economic and political reforms being embraced by other Eastern European countries.

"We will follow our own way, we don't copy anyone," he said. "Here in the tropics, on this Caribbean island, things are different," he added.

Meeting in extraordinary session, the Cuban national assembly elected Justice Minister Juan Escalona as new assembly president to replace the former holder of the post, Flavio Bravo, who died in 1988. Escalona, an army general, will continue to work as justice minister.

He acted as principal state prosecutor in the mid-1989 trial against four senior Cuban military officers accused of drug-trafficking. The four were convicted and executed.

Castro said the government was studying ways of strengthening the relationship between itself and the national assembly.

The proposed government and party reforms would also seek to eliminate unnecessary duplication of work and excessive bureaucracy.

"We know what we have to do but we will do it without removing even the tiniest bit of authority from the party," he said.

Castro said the unity of the Cuban people was its strongest weapon. "We have our own Warsaw Pact and Nato. We have our people armed and organised," the Cuban leader said.

Castro ridiculed what he said were expectations abroad that Cuba's communist system was about to collapse.

"The Yankees (US) are making plans and sharpening their teeth, they've named commissions for when Cuba might fall," the Cuban leader said, beating the rostrum with his fist in anger.

A leading Cuban dissident yesterday dismissed recent reforms announced by Havana, saying they went against the liberal tide sweeping Eastern Europe and meant further tightening of party control.

"One cannot interpret these changes as an opening up, quite the opposite," said Ricardo Bofill, who headed a human rights group in Cuba until he

was allowed to leave in October 1988.

Bofill, a 52-year-old professor who spent eight years in Cuban jails, told Reuters in an interview that the only two senior officials who could have introduced some degree of liberalisation were sidelined in the recent shake-up.

A headline general took over from a civilian as head of Cuba's Committees for the Defence of the Revolution (CDRS), which organise patriotic activities at local level and root out "counter-revolutionaries".

The US State Department said yesterday that Cuba has received a new shipment of high-performance Soviet fighter planes and the United States "simply cannot tolerate" such developments.

Under questioning, department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler denied that the statement constituted a threat to Cuba. She referred reporters to recent testimony before a Soviet legislative committee by Secretary of State James A. Baker III in which he said Cuba posed no threat to the United States.

## Child abusers may be jailed

Bid to sue Nasa denied

WASHINGTON, Feb 21, (AP): Parents suspected of child abuse may be jailed indefinitely for refusing to disclose the whereabouts of their children, the Supreme Court ruled yesterday.

The court said society's need to protect children from harm generally outweighs a parent's constitutional right against self-incrimination.

By a 7-2 vote, the court upheld the indefinite jailing of a Maryland woman until she tells authorities where her young son can be found. The boy is feared dead.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, writing for the court, said forcing parents in such cases to reveal the whereabouts of children is aimed at protecting the children and not gathering incriminating evidence.

"Even when criminal conduct may exist, a court may properly request production and return of the child ... for reasons related entirely to the child's well-being and through measures unrelated to criminal law enforcement or investigation," O'Connor said.

Justices William J. Brennan and Thurgood Marshall dissented.

The court ruled against Jacqueline Bouknight, who has been in a Baltimore jail since April 1988 for refusing to disclose the whereabouts of her son, Maurice.

The boy has been missing since September 1987, when he was 11 months old.

Maurice was admitted to a Baltimore hospital on Jan 23, 1987, when he was 3 months old, for treatment of a broken leg and other injuries. For a while, he was held in protective care after his emotionally troubled mother was observed throwing Maurice into his crib during the infant's hospitalisation.

Maurice was returned to his mother's custody on July 17, 1987, after she agreed not to punish him physically and to undergo training in parenting skills.

Nine months later, social workers said Bouknight no longer was co-operating with them. Also, they said Maurice's father recently had been shot to death in a drug-related killing and Bouknight was using drugs.

The mother was held in contempt of court by a judge on April 28, 1988, after she refused to disclose Maurice's whereabouts.

But the Maryland Court of Appeals, the state's highest court, ruled in December that

jailing her for refusing to disclose the information violates her constitutional protection against self-incrimination.

She has remained in jail under an order by Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist that suspended the effect of the state court ruling.

Some compared the Bouknight case to that of Dr. Elizabeth Morgan of Washington, DC, released from prison on Sept 25 after more than two years behind bars for refusing to let her daughter visit the girl's father, Morgan's former husband.

Morgan went to jail rather than produce the girl for court-ordered visits with the father. Morgan accused her former husband of sexually abusing the child, charges he repeatedly has denied.

In the Bouknight case, O'Connor said the mother, as custodian of child officials have determined has been abused, has an obligation to produce her son for authorities.

"These orders to produce children cannot be characterised as efforts to gain some testimonial component of the act of production," O'Connor said. "Concern for the child's safety underlay the efforts to gain access to and then compel production of Maurice."

She said prosecutors might be barred from using any testimony Bouknight gives in producing the child.

"The same custodial role that limited the ability to resist the production order may give rise to corresponding limitations upon the direct and indirect use of that testimony," she said.

But Marshall, in his dissenting opinion, said the case is little comfort now for the mother.

■ The Supreme Court refused to revive a lawsuit by the widow of one of the seven astronauts who died when the space shuttle Challenger exploded in 1986.

The court, without comment, left intact a ruling that shields the federal government and a Nasa engineer from being sued.

Navy Commander Michael J. Smith was one of the seven killed when the Challenger exploded 74 seconds after its Jan 28, 1986 launch.

His widow, Jane, sued for damages and to bar Morton Thiokol, manufacturer of the shuttle's booster rockets, from bidding on any future National Aeronautics and Space Administration projects.

Families of the astronauts received millions of dollars in a settlement with Morton Thiokol.

## UN focus on drug users

Nations battling drug dealers draw support from session

UNITED NATIONS, Feb 21, (Agencies): Countries battling drug traffickers have drawn support for their efforts during a UN special session on narcotics, shifting the focus to concerns over consumption and economic aid.

Diplomats and UN officials said they wanted the session to change the emphasis from attempts to stop production in poor countries to one that includes fighting consumption in wealthier nations.

Distribution, marketing and money laundering, the related arms trade and sale of

drug-manufacturing chemicals also are key issues being addressed during the four-day session that convened yesterday.

US Secretary of State James Baker said Americans must realise the serious problems drug consumption causes in other nations.

"Profits from every kilo of cocaine bought in the streets of America buy the bullets which rob democracies of their dignity and freedom," Baker said. "American users aid

and abet the drug cartels which in turn foment and exploit regional and global instability."

Wolfgang Schauble, West Germany's federal minister of the interior, stressed the need to eliminate drug production that some regions depend on economically. But he recommended changing trade policies to give a boost to legal income in regions facing serious economic and social damage, because of drug-related problems.

Thailand's Deputy Prime Minister, Pong Sarsin, said his country is plagued by the flow of drugs from the heroin-rich "golden triangle," which includes parts of Thailand, Laos and Burma.

"In view of the alarming increase in the output of drugs from the golden triangle, the success of current suppression and interdiction activities remains doubtful without a stronger and more generous support from the international community," the Thai official said.

He emphasised the need for drug-consuming countries to step up efforts to reduce demand, "because without a market, no business can exist."

Earlier, UN chief Javier Perez de Cuellar appealed for more money to fight the drug scourge, calling it an international "time-bomb."

"We must now find measures to deal with it before it explodes and destroys us," Perez de Cuellar said.

He said that although the United Nations already faces severe financial problems, more money must be allocated to the drug battle.

Diplomats and UN officials say they hope to conclude the four-day session with a global plan to fight drug problems and measures to enhance the world body's role in that effort.

The debate began with Colombia's Foreign Minister, Julio Londoño Parades, telling the 159-nation assembly that the burden in the drug fight has been borne by a small number of developing nations.

Action must be taken on many fronts, he said, including action against the production of chemicals used in drug manufacturing and increased aid to developing countries to reduce the demand for drugs.

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## America testing pests to eat coca

WASHINGTON, Feb 21, (AP): The US government is researching a possible new ally in the war against cocaine — a caterpillar with a taste for coca leaves — but officials said yesterday the insects won't be deployed unless South American nations approve.

"We are not undertaking any biological war," said President George Bush's spokesman, Martin Fitzwater. "Neither troops nor caterpillars will go in without prior request and consultation."

Peruvian and Bolivian growers supply the vast majority of the world's coca leaves, the raw material for cocaine. Colombians process and transport most of the world's finished cocaine.

A Peruvian embassy spokesman said the ambassador met with Bush administration officials after a story on the caterpillar programme appeared in the Washington Post. The ambassador was assured the United States would not take action without the Peruvian government's approval, said the spokesman, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"I think they are trying to keep the spirit of Cartagena (the site of a four-nation drug summit last week), which was a good feeling of consultation and co-operation between the four countries," the spokesman said.

A Bolivian official, who also asked not to be identified, said his country's environmental concerns have prompted it to reject the use of chemical agents to destroy coca crops, and the same concerns probably will lead his government also to reject the use of biological agents.

Segundo Montevilla, who leads the Confederation of Bolivian peasants labour organisation, said in La Paz that killing coca with insects would prove Americans lack the "political will to solve the social and economic problems in Bolivia, Peru and Colombia. If it is true, this would mean that the famous Cartagena drug summit made no sense."

The principal focus of that research is the malamba, a white moth that, when it is still in its caterpillar stages, eats coca plant leaves, officials said.

"This is quite a voracious caterpillar," Waldemar Klassen, associate deputy administrator for the ARS, told the Post. "If we could put them down there in sufficient number, we could then defoliate the plants."

The ELN kidnapped businessman James Arthur Donnelly last Monday and teacher David Leslie Kent last Tuesday in the northern city of Medellin, home of another drug-smuggling cartel.

There were no reports of the release of Donnelly and Kent on Tuesday. However, rebel sources said they would be released on Sunday night.

President Virgilio Barco called an urgent meeting of Colombia's

## 'Death to gringos'

Bogota rebels list US targets

BOGOTA, Feb 21, (Reuters): Leftist guerrillas in Colombia have named the US ambassador and North American military advisers here as their top two targets, according to a message conveyed yesterday. The group declared "death to gringos" and said it will target all US interest in Colombia.

The message, sent to news media, was carried by Father Francisco Antonio Amico Ferrari, a kidnapped American priest freed by the rebels on Monday night.

The statement said, "The National Liberation Army (ELN), due to the interventionist policy of the United States in Colombia, has declared all the North American interests in our country military objectives and they are in order of priority:

1. Ambassador Thomas McNamara.  
2. North American military advisers.

3. North American directors of oil multinationals Texas (an apparent reference to Texaco) and Occidental.

4. North American spies.  
5. All North American citizens who intervene in one way or another in our nation's internal conflict.

6. The infrastructure of all the above."

The US embassy declined to comment immediately on the ELN statement.

The ELN freed Amico Ferrari, an American priest who works for a Canadian-sponsored Catholic denomination, in the southwestern city of Cali, home of a drug-smuggling cartel.

Amico Ferrari, who was kidnapped in Cali last Thursday, distributed the ELN's message to local media after being released.

The message said the ELN kidnapped Amico Ferrari and two other Americans last week to protest against US President George Bush's visit to Colombia last Thursday to attend an anti-drug summit with the leaders of South America's three main cocaine-producing countries.

It also said the kidnappings were to protest against US military intervention in Colombia and the presence of US military advisers directing what it called the "dirty war," apparently referring to allegations that the Colombian army has tortured and killed guerrillas.

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There were no reports of the release of Donnelly and Kent on Tuesday. However, rebel sources said they would be released on Sunday night.

President Virgilio Barco called an urgent meeting of Colombia's



Manuel Maza Marquez, leader of the National Liberation Army (NLA) guerrilla movement, in a recent photo. Perez, a defrocked Spanish priest, declared a military offensive against US interest in Colombia. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Drug suspects held Sams captured

BOGOTA, Feb 21, (UPI): Secret police captured two suspected members of a drug cartel gang and confiscated 10 surface-to-air missiles two days before US President George Bush flew to Cartagena for a drug summit, a police official said yesterday.

Gen. Manuel Maza Marquez, head of the secret police force, said the two drug cartel suspects, Guillermo Oswaldo Gaitan and Octavio Pineda Galvis, were arrested in a house in the southern section of Bogota a week ago. He said the missiles were French-made 37 Snibs, which can be shoulder-fired.

"What they were planning to do was atrocious," Maza said. "The attacks were aimed at the spinal column of the security of the state."

He said the control tower at Bogota's El Dorado International airport was a potential target of the missiles. He did not name other potential targets.

Bush flew to the historic port city of Cartagena last Thursday to plot anti-drug strategy with his counterparts from Colombia, Peru and Bolivia.

In Washington, White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said the administration did not have information to confirm the reports that the missiles had been seized.

He said there was no doubt there has been "terrorist activity in that country ... and there are drug cartels that are capable of this."

The national security council following the declaration by the National Liberation Army.

Meanwhile, at the urging of Barco, a federal court pardoned 35 members of another guerrilla group accused of the worst insurgent attack ever in Colombia — the Nov 6, 1985 takeover of Colombia's Palace of Justice in which 95 people were killed, including 11 of the supreme court's 24 justices.

The guerrillas who received pardons belong to the April 19 movement, known as M-19, and include the movement's leader, Carlos Pizarro.

The pardons were part of an attempt by the Barco government to end three decades of rebel violence that has claimed more than 75,000 lives.

Also yesterday, the chief of Colombia's secret police said 10 shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missiles recently seized from drug traffickers had been intended for use by the traffickers against Bogota's international airport and other important government targets.

two-hour battle with police in a square outside Venezuelan Central University in Caracas, witnesses said.

The students threw rocks and set a truck on fire, students said.

Minor disturbances broke out in Merida, Cumana, San Cristobal, Barquisimeto and Maracaibo, police sources said.

Many of the protesters were students angered by the strike and by the refusal of

## 300 killed in riots over bus fares in Venezuela: 1,000 hurt, 50 held

CARACAS, Venezuela, Feb 21, (AP): Mobs angered by a public transportation strike looted a dozen grocery stores and burned a truck, a TV news programme reported. Rock-throwing students also battled police in Caracas.

At least 50 people were reported to have been arrested in the rioting yesterday.

The disturbances in seven cities were among the worst since February 1989, when 300 people were killed and more than 1,000 injured in widespread rioting over an

increase in bus fares.

In the cities of Barcelona and Puerto La Cruz, both about 120 miles (193 kilometres) east of Caracas, at least 12 grocery stores were sacked before police fired tear gas to disperse the mobs, radio Caracas television said.

No casualties were reported during the violence, but at least 30 people were arrested in both cities, the TV reported.

At least 20 students were arrested after a

two-hour battle with police in a square outside Venezuelan Central University in Caracas, witnesses said.

The students threw rocks and set a truck on fire, students said.

Minor disturbances broke out in Merida, Cumana, San Cristobal, Barquisimeto and Maracaibo, police sources said.

Many of the protesters were students angered by the strike and by the refusal of

some bus lines to grant student discounts. The strike left most cities with only partial public transportation.

The strike was called by unions protesting delays by the government in paying subsidies that allow discounts of up to 50 per cent over regular rates for students.

Increases of 30 per cent to 50 per cent in public transport tariffs and price gouging by bus drivers set off the rioting in February 1989 — the worst violence in Venezuela in 31 years.

Every rental car in Managua was gone by yesterday, and the government was getting \$100 a day plus mileage for battered Soviet-made Ladas. Official observer missions use white buses and four-wheel-drive vehicles.

Among the observers arriving yesterday was Elliot Richardson, a former US Attorney-General who heads the United Nations team.



## Rare turtle

Portuguese Air Lines stewardess Luis Dyer holds a rare Loggerhead turtle nicknamed Myrtle, one of the two being flown to the Madeira Islands from Heathrow Airport on Feb 20. The turtles which are protected species living in warmer waters were found washed up in Iceland. (Reuters wirephoto)

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# Politicised military biggest challenge to Aquino

MANILA, Feb 21, (Reuters): Every February, Philippine President Corason Aquino travels north to the city of Baguio for a ritual that is turning into a personal ordeal.

The Philippine military academy, in the cool hills of the Cordillera, has trained many of the officers who masterminded six attempts to oust her in the four years since she was swept to power in 1986.

Aquino presides over the academy's graduation ceremony, inspecting neat rows of cadets in grey tunics who form the elite of a highly-politicised army which has become the single biggest threat to her survival.

After helping to put the soft-spoken widow in power in a popular-backed military revolt which ended 20 years of authoritarian rule under the late Ferdinand Marcos, the 165,000-strong Philippine military is now the main challenge to her future.

"The seeds of discontent that we have planted in young military officers and enlisted men are now widespread," said Lieutenant-Commander Jaime Lucas, one of the leaders of the sixth and most serious coup attempt against Aquino last December.

Defence Secretary General Fidel Ramos says the Aquino government will go on facing

coup threats until it tackle basic problems, such as widespread corruption, poverty and major inequalities in wealth across the country of 60 million people.

"A military coup is only a manifestation of the people's dissatisfaction with society," said Ramos, who along with former Defence Secretary Juan Ponce Enrile, launched the February 1986 putsch against Marcos which forced him into exile.

Ramos said in an interview with a Philippine daily that the mainstream of the Philippine armed forces had crushed each of the six coup attempts against Aquino.

But, in an acknowledgement that the complaints and accusations of the right-wing military rebels have some basis, he said: "So long as the social ills I have mentioned remain unaddressed, there will always be a constant threat to a coup."

Members of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM), who triggered the revolt against Marcos, accuse Aquino of tolerating corruption, particularly among her relatives, being a weak and vindictive leader, and being soft on communism.

The December coup attempt was the most serious and well-planned attempt to remove

Aquino so far. Spearheaded by the elite scout ranger regiment, it attracted participation by a broader range of units and officers than previous revolts, according to military analysts.

The mutiny, in which at least 113 people died and more than 600 were wounded, also brought together for the first time RAM and supporters of Marcos headed by former Brigadier-General Jose Maria Zume.

Around 3,000 troops took part in the insurrection, and some 1,000 are still at large, including the unofficial RAM leader, cashiered Colonel Gregorio Honasan who

has vowed to launch another coup attempt. President Aquino has been meeting junior officers, inviting them to lunch at the Malacanang Presidential Palace, to hear their problems and secure their loyalty.

They have raised issues ranging from poor pay, inadequate combat provisions and problems over the slow pace of promotions within the armed forces that block the advancement of junior officers.

The military has also come under fire in the Philippine Congress, accused of being involved in illegal gambling, crime syndicates and human rights abuse.



Costner: Man of the Year

Actor Kevin Costner (centre) is being kissed by two male actors from Harvard University's Hasty Pudding theatricals troupe as they awarded

him their 1990 Man of the Year Award Feb 20, in a ceremony at the university in Cambridge Massachusetts. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Moro vow to fight

Cory autonomy plan will be wrecked, says Misuari

JEDDAH, Feb 21, (AP): Filipino Muslim rebel leader Nur Misuari vowed yesterday his forces will go all out to wreck President Corason Aquino's autonomy plan in Muslim-dominated southern provinces.

Misuari, who heads the Moro National Liberation Front, said Aquino's move to enforce autonomy in regions seeking independence blocked any prospect of ending a 20-year guerrilla war by Muslim separatists.

He described it as "the straw that broke the camel's back." The Manila government claimed a referendum in the regions last year approved its plans for limited autonomy there.

Conference has its headquarters. Aquino's move has shut off "the last avenue to a peaceful settlement," Misuari said.

The autonomy plan was being pushed through despite being rejected by the rebel movement fighting for the independence of the southern Mindanao region, he said.

The OIC has been mediating a compromise. It has also rejected the autonomy framework, put to a referendum last year by Aquino's government, because it fell short of Misuari's demands.

The rebel leader stressed that by continuing with her autonomy plans, Aquino had undermined the Tripoli agreement signed by the two sides in 1976 and which stipulated political autonomy for Mindanao's 13 provinces, as well as the OIC's mediation effort.

Misuari called on the Islamic world and the OIC to protest the Manila government's moves and warned that Aquino's actions will "precipitate another crisis in the south, with catastrophic consequences for the innocent people there."

### Surgery better quality of life in brain cancer

BOSTON, Feb 21, (Reuters): Combining surgical removal of a brain tumour with radiation treatment appears to be more effective than radiation alone for prolonging and improving the lives of cancer victims, a new report shows.

In a study published today in the New England Journal of Medicine, researchers at the University of Kentucky Medical Centre said that 25 patients who received surgery and radiation for their tumours lived nearly three times longer than 23 volunteers given only radiation.

In addition, the surgery patients were able to care for themselves for about 38 weeks, compared with only 8 weeks for the radiation group.

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## Grammy offers chance for 'Beatles' reunion

LOS ANGELES, Feb 21, (AP): The 32nd annual Grammy Awards offered a chance for a reunion of sorts for the three surviving Beatles at the Shrine Auditorium.

Two former members of the Fab Four, George Harrison and Ringo Starr, were in contention for Grammys tonight and the third surviving member, Paul McCartney, was chosen in advance to receive an honour for his lifetime achievements.

Former Beatle John Lennon was killed in a December 1980, attack by a deranged fan. Harrison, as part of the All-Star Traveling Wilburys, was up for album of the year and best vocal rock group

performance for the LP "Traveling Wilburys Volume One." Starr's teaming with Buck Owens on the single "Act Naturally" earned a bid for best country vocal collaboration.

McCartney and jazz artist Miles Davis were chosen to receive Lifetime Achievement Awards from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences.

The academy said McCartney would be honoured on stage, receiving the award from actress Meryl Streep. It was unknown whether Harrison and Starr would be on hand.

## 'The other woman' fights back

Lawyers hired to control publicity over Trumps

NEW YORK, Feb 21, (AP): Model Maria Maples, fighting back after a week of portrayals as the Trump Tower home-wrecker, hired a lawyer to stop the media from splashing her face and figure across the front page and the TV screen.

"We are retaining counsel," said her publicist, Chuck Jones. "We plan an active pursuit of litigation against people wrongfully selling photos and videotape or making libelous statements against Maria."

Jones did not say specifically who might be targetted in the model's fight-back campaign.

Miss Maples, who has not surfaced publicly since the Trump divorce story began last week, has been featured in front-page tabloid photos and in home video on television programmes. Jones asserted some of this material was used without his client's approval.

### First genetically bred trees

NEW ORLEANS, Feb 21, (AP): Scientists yesterday reported developing the world's first genetically engineered trees, poplars designed to be grown on large plantations for energy production.

A mutant gene from a species of bacteria that commonly causes food poisoning was introduced into the trees, making the poplars resistant to the widely used weedkiller glyphosate, which is marketed as roundup. Growing poplars on plantations has been difficult because the young trees can be crowded out and killed by weeds. Weedkillers often kill or damage the poplars, said Bruce E. Haisig of the US forest service laboratory in Rhineland, Wis.

### New romance

## Comaneci plans to wed soon

TOKYO, Feb 21, (Reuters): Nadia Comaneci, gymnast sweetheart of the 1976 Montreal Olympics, says she plans to wed the "best friend" she left behind in Romania, 30-year-old Mihail Vasilescu.

Comaneci, in Tokyo to appear on television, denied reports she was romantically involved with her American manager Constantine Panait.

Panait, who accompanied her to Tokyo, is a married father of four who helped Comaneci escape Romania just before it erupted in revolution and to seek refuge in the United States. "We will get married when he (Vasilescu) arrives," a beaming, demurely-dressed Comaneci told reporters through an interpreter here yesterday.

"He is tall and he is quite handsome," she said of the computer programmer, who she said would join her in Los Angeles in two or three months.

Comaneci, winner of three gold medals and a perfect 10 score in Montreal, said she was making an autobiographical movie in the United States which would culminate in her defection from Romania last year.

Comaneci is receiving several hundred thousand yen (several thousand dollars) from her appearance on Nihon television, Yumi Takahashi, the producer of the show, said.

"These people are making money off Maria's misfortune," said Jones. "It's going to stop."

Donald and Ivana Trump announced last week they were separating after 12 years of marriage. Despite repeated denials, Miss Maples has been prominently mentioned as "the other woman" who lured Trump from his wife.

Trump defended Miss Maples in an interview with the New York Post.

"Maria is an unfortunate victim of all this. She is really a very nice person who is really a friend," said Trump, who spent the weekend with his wife and their three children at the couple's Florida mansion.

While stories about the couple's split continued to make the front page, neither side appeared any closer to filing divorce papers. Trump again mentioned the possibility of a reconciliation to the Daily News.

It was reported in the Post that Trump assigned three bodyguards to follow Maples, who has been reported having an affair with Trump, to make sure she never encountered the billionaire's wife, Ivana.

The Post quoted a high-ranking source in the Trump organisation as saying the three, called the Corvette Squad because of the new sports cars they drove, whisked Maples in and out of Trump hotels and casinos.

She would stay in a room one floor below Trump, who would sneak out to see her.

### Abdul Aziz Yousuf Al Essa & Co. Require

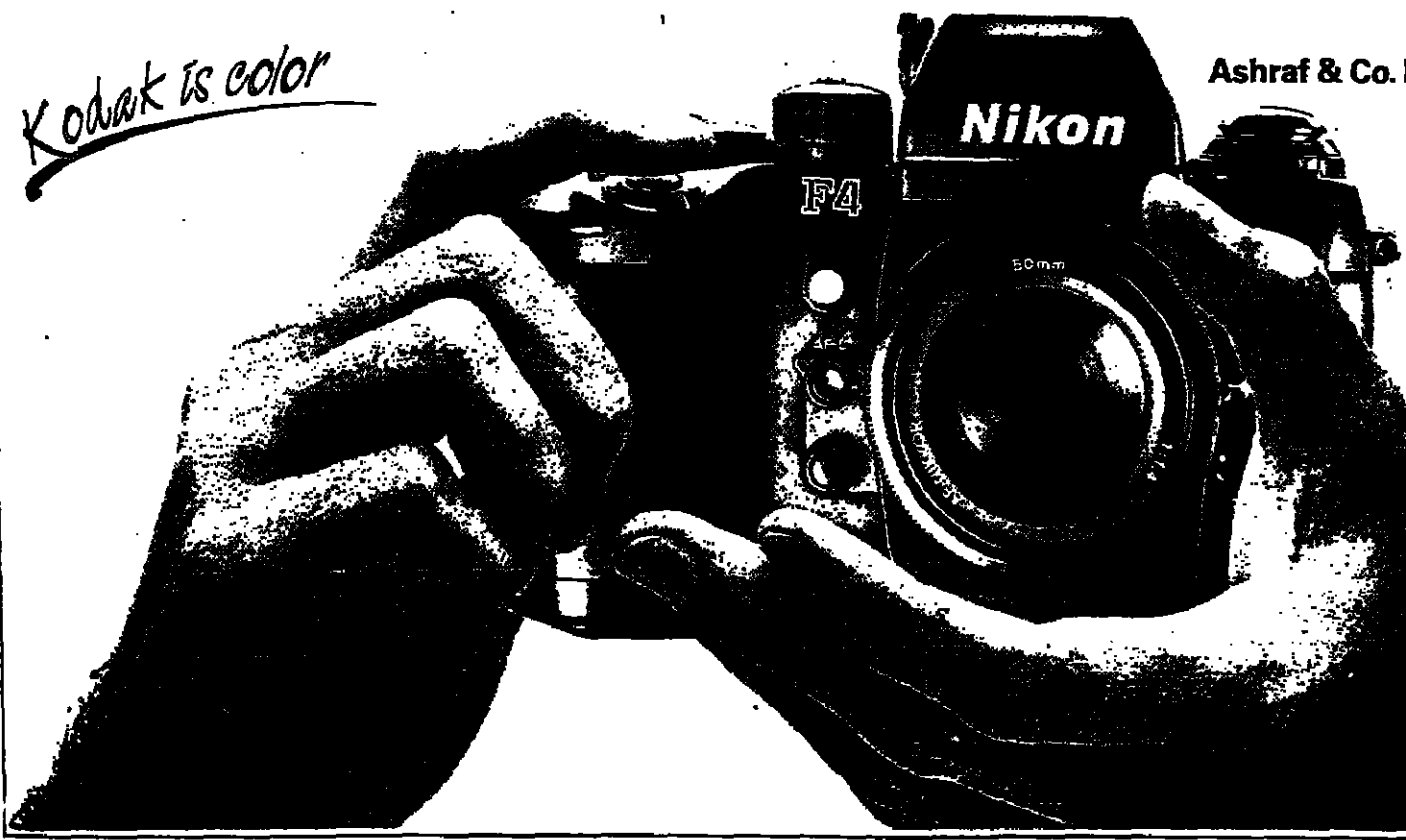
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## NEWS IN BRIEF

## America

**Barry is an alcoholic: Effi:** The wife of Washington Mayor Marion Barry said on Tuesday that her husband, under indictment on drug charges, has had an alcohol problem since the first day of their marriage 12 years ago.

On Tuesday a judge postponed until February 28 the scheduled arraignment on Wednesday of Barry on eight drug-related charges brought by a grand jury last week.

In an interview with a Washington television station, Effi Barry also said that while she never saw her husband use drugs, his alcohol problem may have made him vulnerable to their use. (Reuters)

**Environmentalists criticize US:** Critics of plans to build a powerful US radio relay station in Israel's Negev Desert said on Tuesday it would endanger migrating birds and questioned whether it was still needed.

The \$300-million project would enable Voice of America to send a stronger broadcast signal into the Soviet Union's central Asian republics and also send shortwave signals to other areas in Africa and South Asia.

Representative James Scheuer, a New York Democrat, told a congressional hearing the station's 16,500-kilowatt transmitters and antenna arrays would interfere with the flights of millions of birds that migrate through the area. (Reuters)

**Delay releasing Reagan tapes appeal:** John Poindeexter on Tuesday asked the judge in his Iran-Contra trial to delay releasing former President Ronald Reagan's videotaped testimony until a jury is selected.

Twelve news organizations, meanwhile, suggested in a court filing that the videotape and transcripts of Reagan's testimony be made available as soon as possible, as the judge ordered last week.

Reagan's testimony, given Friday and Saturday in Los Angeles, "is favorable to the defense," Poindeexter's lawyers maintained in court papers. But they said publishing it now would have an "incalculable impact" on prospective jurors. (AP)

**Prison guards suspended:** The Federal Bureau of Investigation said Tuesday it was investigating possible civil rights violations of a state prison inmate who was allegedly attacked by guards in Cranston, Rhode Island.

Corrections department spokesman Joseph Dinito said three guards were suspended Jan 17 in the Nov 19 beating of Donald R. Coulter, who was held on a charge he assaulted his girlfriend's 13-month-old son.

"We... feel that there might be some need for prosecution," Dinito said. The three were suspended with pay. (AP)

**Police officer suspected:** A police officer has become a suspect in last week's car-bomb slaying of an undercover narcotics detective in what may have been a love triangle, sources said in Mineola, New York.

A team of Suffolk County detectives was interviewing the suspect Tuesday in Cooperstown in upstate New York, said a source involved in the investigation of the bombing.

Police initially believed Suffolk County police officer Dennis Wustenhoff, 41, had been assassinated because of his undercover work, but the source said the detective had apparently been having an affair with the suspect's wife. (AP)

**Lee gets a warm reception:** Spike Lee may have been wearing a Georgetown University cap and sweatshirt, but he got a far warmer reception from Syracuse University students than he did from Academy Award voters.

In a lecture and question-and-answer session Monday, Lee shrugged off the academy's icy treatment of his latest movie, "Do the Right Thing," and blamed it on generational politics.

The 1989 film, widely hailed by critics, received only two Academy Award nominations, and isn't being considered for best picture or best director. (AP)

**Bush nominated Bohlen:** President George Bush announced Tuesday the nomination of Curtis Bohlen, vice president of the World Wildlife Fund, as Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs.

Bohlen has been senior vice president of the fund since 1981 and previously served as a consultant to it, as well as vice president of Eastern Controls Inc. in Maryland.

**Bush salutes microchip inventors:** Paraphrasing Winston Churchill, President George Bush hailed the co-developers of the microchip Tuesday, saying of their tiny invention: "Never has something so small done so much for so many."

"The microchip has... helped America change the world," Bush said in remarks prepared for delivery at a ceremony honoring Jack Kilby and Robert Noyce of Dallas and Austin, Texas, respectively.

The revolutionary scientific duo are the first recipients of the National Academy of Engineering's Charles Stark Draper Prize, and as such receive a gold medal and split a \$350,000 cash award. (UPI)

## Latin America

**Banished leaders return to Haiti:** Three of seven opposition activists banished a month ago by military ruler Lt. Gen. Prosper Avril have returned to Haiti, radio Antilles said Tuesday.

Antoine Izemery, a prominent businessman and outspoken critic of Avril, and radical militant Max Montreuil arrived from Miami Tuesday, a day after Communist Party deputy leader Max Bourjoly arrived from Paris, the privately-owned radio station said.

Bourjoly, Izemery, Montreuil and four others were thrown out of the country between Jan 20-24, during a crackdown on the opposition after an army colonel was assassinated. (AP)

**Passengers burn train, 15 hurt:** Fifteen people were hurt when passengers angered by a morning rush hour delay burned one commuter train and stoned another, a transportation spokesman said Tuesday in Rio de Janeiro.

After an electric failure at Rio's Olaria station halted service for 20 minutes, riders set fire to the eight-car train, said Luis Carlos de Souza, of the Brazilian company of urban trains, which runs the state-run commuter lines.

Souza said the train was almost completely destroyed. Passengers delayed at the Penha station, one stop behind the burned vehicle, then smashed windows and stoned their train, the spokesman said. (AP)



Like a hole in my head

US President George Bush jokes with the news media as he walks back to Oval office following the departure of Czechoslovakian President Vaclav Havel from the White House on Feb 20. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Bridge on a bridge

**Dental artist**

EAST PEORIA, Illinois, Feb 21, (AP) Dental work is an art form for Don Woods, a dental technician whose sideline is creating tiny paintings on false teeth, bridges and crowns.

Working with brightly colored dental stains, Woods paints on ceramic used to create false teeth. The image later is baked permanently into the tiny bits of porcelain.

He did a baby grand piano on a tooth he made for Linda Urban, 26.

"I'm a pianist and so is my husband," Ms. Urban said. "I needed some bridge work done and I thought it was a cute idea to have a piano painted on my tooth. It looks like an actual little piano."

**Panama invasion deplored:** A resolution deploring the United States of America's military intervention in Panama was adopted by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

The adoption of the resolution was met with the bitterness on the part of the American delegation which insisted that the resolution was "entirely inappropriate."

A statement released by the US Office of Public Affairs in Geneva Tuesday evening stated that the work of the commission would be "far more effective if it focused on the grave abuses of rights that darken this planet," noting that the Panamanian people are now enjoying self-determination under a freely-elected government.

The resolution demands the immediate cessation of the intervention. The US said that this was a fallacy because intervention had already ended, and moreover, respect for treaties are being "fully honored and implemented." (KUNA)

**Duarte suffers another relapse:** Former President Jose Napoleon Duarte suffered a relapse in battle against terminal cancer and could die within two days, his doctor said Tuesday in San Salvador. "Duarte has difficulty breathing, which lead to coagulation in his respiratory passages," said Dr. Jose Luis Saca.

Saca, who is Duarte's personal physician, said he has detected "a major invasion of the cancer in other areas of the abdomen." (AP)

**Michael Powell dies:** Michael Powell, the innovative director of "The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp," "The Red Shoes," and 30 other films, has died at age 84, the National Film Archive announced Tuesday in London.

Powell died Monday night at his home in Aveing in Gloucestershire, where he was flown after taking ill in New York two weeks ago, the archive's announcement said.

"Of his generation, he was unquestionably the most innovative and most creatively brilliant filmmaker this country ever boasted," said fellow director Sir Richard Attenborough. (AP)

**Correspondent editor Laird dies:** Stephen Laird, a longtime foreign correspondent and editor with Time magazine, Fortune, Newsweek and other publications, died in a Chertsey Hospital, his family reported Monday. He was 74.

Laird died Thursday and was cremated on Monday, according to his daughter, Maxine, who did not reveal the cause of death.

Laird was born Aug 1, 1915 in Emmaus, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Swarthmore College in 1936, then took a job as a reporter for the Chester, Pennsylvania Times. (AP)

**Huntington dies of cancer:** William Reed Huntington, the former Quaker representative to the United Nations, has died of lung cancer at age 83 in Norwich, Vermont.

Huntington, who died Sunday at home, was active for years in the American Friends Service Committee, an organization of Quakers. He also served as the director of the United Nations Quaker Programme.

A native of New York City, he was the grandson of the Rev. William Reed Huntington, longtime rector of Grace Episcopal Church in New York. After graduating from Harvard College, he received a master's degree in architecture from the University of Virginia. He practiced architecture in St. James, New York and Vermont, where he retired in 1982. (AP)

# UK goes it alone on SA sanctions

## EEC mission to gauge changes

DUBLIN, Feb 21, (Agencies): Britain has decided to go it alone and lift sanctions against South Africa, earning a sharp rebuke from Ireland as current president of the European Economic Community.

A meeting in Dublin of EEC foreign ministers ended yesterday with Britain deciding to relax sanctions against South Africa in recognition of President F.W. de Klerk's decision to free black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela 10 days ago.

Irish Foreign Minister Gerry Collins, clearly angry over Britain's decision to break ranks, said: "It will be the first time such consensus has ever been broken."

Africa. This would be done without delay in a written statement to the British House of Commons.

EEC sanctions ban exports of arms and imports of South African gold coins, iron and steel. The ban on new investments did not become EEC law so there are no legal problems attached to a member state lifting its own ban.

Other EEC countries have in the past regarded Britain as a reluctant European with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher fighting for budget cuts and resisting plans for greater economic, monetary and political integration in the 12-nation bloc.

But Britain has in the past ranked as one of the strongest supporters of foreign policy co-ordination by the EEC.

After the Dublin row over sanctions, Collins retorted: "It will destroy political co-operation within the European Economic Community as it has been up to now."

"We need to give support to... (South African) President de Klerk, who has taken his political life in his hands," British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd declared after a day-long meeting of foreign ministers from the 12-nation trade bloc.

"It is not enough to sit back and say, 'that's encouraging, let's see what you do next,'" he said.

Hurd said Britain had received support from the United States for rewarding De Klerk with closer ties.

The foreign ministers rejected a British compromise offer to delay the unilateral action in return for a pledge from all 12 nations to scarp the 1986 investment embargo when South Africa lifts the state of emergency, and to end all embargoes when black and white leaders start negotiations.

The community said in a statement that the white-led government's political reforms "while welcome... do not yet go far enough."

Hurd said Britain did not oppose the mission, but added, "It did not meet the case. It would be interpreted as a signal by the twelve delaying rather than encouraging."

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher had previously renewed cultural and scientific ties this month when De Klerk announced far-reaching reforms, including legalising the African National Congress and releasing black leader Nelson Mandela.

Only Portugal, which like Britain is a former colonial power in Africa, gave Hurd some support yesterday before finally going with the majority.

Hurd said Britain's long and often lonely policy of opposing sanctions had paid off by encouraging white South Africans to move away from apartheid.

He said Britain would end the investment ban with an announcement in parliament by the trade department, adding, "I see no reason for delay."

He also said US President George Bush wrote to Thatcher yesterday "analysing the legal situation imposed by congress."

Bush is prevented by the US Congress from lifting sanctions until South Africa fulfils strict conditions, including ending the state of emergency and freeing all political prisoners.

"He (Bush) went on to say the steps we are taking are positive and added that he feels very strongly that when someone does what you are asking him, you should recognise that fact," said Hurd.

The ban on new investment is one of a series of "voluntary" measures against South Africa imposed by the community in 1986.

Arguing that sanctions should be retained, he said: "There is still a distance to go to achieve the complete abolition of apartheid."

The ministers decided to send a "troika" mission — the foreign ministers of France, Italy and Ireland — on a fact-finding mission to South Africa.

As that decision was being announced by Collins at a news conference, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd was telling another news conference about Britain's move.

Hurd said Britain would lift its ban on new investment in South



Makeba singing during the Italian TV show. (Reuters wirephoto)

# Makeba trials rewarded

## Mandela thanks singer for support

ROME, Feb 21, (Reuters): The night a free Nelson Mandela telephoned to thank Black South African singer Miriam Makeba for her life-long battle against apartheid, she was so exhilarated she could not sleep.

The soft-spoken Makeba, exiled 30 years ago from the land she symbolises to millions of admirers world-wide, chuckled when asked whether her committed singing contributed to his release.

"You tell me. I spoke to him last night and he told me he was very proud of me. He told me I'd been an ambassador for my people. After that I just couldn't sleep," said 50-year-old Makeba, dubbed "Mama Africa" by her fans.

She wore a green dressing gown wrapped tightly round her as she waited to be made up for an Italian television show during her current European tour.

That telephone call earlier this week made her feel as though the years of exile, and a wave of hostility to her marriage with black militant Stokely Carmichael which drove her out of the United States where she had sought refuge, were not in vain.

"Mandela was so kind. I feel that if he says that to me, and if all the people at home think as he does, then it was all worth it."

Makeba began her singing career with protest songs in school and church choirs. In South Africa before being taken to the United States in the late 1950s by West Indian singer Harry Belafonte, her friend and mentor.

She found immediate success there and her international hit "Pata, Pata" (touch, touch) started a dance craze.

But when her mother died in 1960, Pretoria cancelled Makeba's passport to prevent her returning home to bury her and she was not allowed back since.

She doggedly continued to sing out against Pretoria's policy of racial segregation although her records were banned at home.

"I live to sing, I sang as a child. I sing about what I see and know. I don't sing politics. I sing truth," she explained before performing on an Italian variety show.

Makeba was the first South African singer to take the tight harmonies and township melodies of her country's stirring folk music to an international audience.

Her repertoire includes music from many countries but she is probably best known for the distinctive clicking sounds which punctuate songs in her native Xhosa language.

Makeba, who won a new generation of fans when she appeared on stage with American singer-songwriter Paul Simon on an international tour in 1987, spoke of her feelings at some of the acclaim both Simon and white South African singer Johnny Clegg have won in recent years.

"Simon goes to South Africa, makes 'Graceland' with black artists there, and then people say he made it music known to the world. That really gets me."

"Clegg may be selling more records than me, but he's allowed to speak out and go in and out of South Africa. I'm the one who carried the cross and then when it becomes fashionable the other get the credit," she said.

Makeba said her first song calling for Mandela's release was in the 1960s, shortly after he was jailed on charges of plotting the overthrow of white rule.

In addition to her singing career, Makeba has become a roving ambassador, making diplomatic and cultural trips from her adopted home in the West African state of Guinea, where she settled in 1968 and which she represented at the United Nations in the mid-1970s.

For Makeba, the release of Mandela was only a first step.

"The end" as she called it, includes her being allowed home. She believes reforms in South Africa have made that more likely and when asked the first thing she would do on her eventual return, answered quickly:

"I'll kneel at my mother's grave and tell her: 'I'm back.'"

JOHANNESBURG, Feb 21, (AP): Nelson Mandela has attempted to calm fear among businesses with an assurance that the African National Congress would not impose drastic economic changes, a newspaper reported today.

Mandela said the ANC would consult business leaders before making any major changes in the economy and would expect both sides to compromise. South African businesses have been frightened by recent Mandela statements backing the ANC's plan to nationalise the economy if it takes control.

"This is an extremely important matter, and in any democratic situation a free expression of opinion is absolutely vital. I also expect compromise from both sides," Mandela was quoted as saying by Business Day newspaper.

A lawmaker of the white opposition Democratic Party said today that the ANC and the governing National Party were moving too slowly and must accelerate political reform.

Tony Leon of the pro-Reform Party said the ANC's decision not to hold a congress on formulating policy until December was a mistake. He told a meeting in Durban that the

ANC and the government had to move more quickly.

"Whether or not the ANC or the government anticipate events achieving their own head of steam is almost irrelevant to the fact that the country, and its people, are hardly likely to stand still while the various parties get their act together," he said.

President F.W. de Klerk released Mandela and legalised the ANC and other anti-apartheid groups earlier this month. De Klerk says he wants negotiations on ending white-minority rule and extending political power to blacks.

The ANC's exiled leadership in Zambia responded Feb 16 to De Klerk's initiative by announcing it would send delegates to meet with the President to try and clear the way for constitutional negotiations.

The ANC wants release of all political prisoners and an end to the state of emergency before taking part in formal talks. De Klerk has said that political prisoners convicted of violent crimes cannot be released.

Mandela appealed to West Germany to keep up its policy of sanctions against the South African apartheid regime, the West German Stern magazine said.

WASHINGTON, Feb 21, (AP): The Supreme Court yesterday let stand Baltimore, Maryland, ordinances requiring the city's public employee pension plans to withdraw all investments in companies doing business with South Africa.

The justices, over one dissenting vote, rejected a challenge that said the divestment ordinances, among other things, impermissibly intrude on the federal government's power to conduct foreign relations.

Justice Byron R. White voted to hear arguments in the case but four votes are needed to grant such review.

Many state, city and county governments have taken similar steps to protest apartheid. South Africa's policy of racial separation.

Lawyers for the four men who challenged Baltimore's ordinances said hundreds of billions of dollars in investments were at stake nationwide.

The ordinances were passed by the Baltimore City Council in 1986. They affect pension plans for police and firefighters, elected city officials and all other city employees.

US court snubs apartheid

UNESCO doors now open for UK, US

FARIS, Feb 21, (Reuters): All obstacles for the return of Britain and the United States to the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) have been removed, the agency's head said yesterday.

"There are now no obstacles to a return of the United States and Britain to Unesco," Director-General Federico Mayor told journalists.

"I have reason to believe that Britain will come back first," he added, without elaborating.

Three more mouths a second

MANILA, Feb 21, (Agencies): The world's population is growing by three people every second and unless this is curbed, most gains so far achieved in improving the quality of life could be swept away, the United Nations Population Fund said today.

Nafis Sadik, executive director of the fund, said progress in reducing birth rates had been slower than expected and the world population, earlier expected to stabilise at 10.2 billion by the end of the next century, could head towards 14 billion people.

Sadik said in a speech at a media and economic seminar in Manila, the world population, now 5.25 billion, was growing by around 250,000 daily. Between 90 and 100 million people will be added every year during the 1990s, she said.

Over the decade, a billion people — a whole extra China — will be added, she said. In Asia, today's 3.1 billion people will become 3.7 billion by the end of the century, she added.

"By and large, the biggest increases will happen in the poorest countries — those least equipped to meet the needs of the new arrivals and invest in their future," Sadik said.

"The 1990s will see faster increases in human numbers than any decade in history. The 1990s will be a decisive decade. All that Asian countries have struggled to achieve could be swept away," she said.

Sadik told the One Asia Assembly that poverty and rapid population growth in rural areas had combined to weaken the pace of development, dimming prospects for increased employment and threatening food supply.

"We should make a direct and all-out attack on the roots of the crisis — poverty and rapid rates of population growth."

Sadik said a key factor in the population problem was the role given to women. She said improvements in women's status, their access to education, health and the means of family planning were the best and quickest way to reduce population growth rates.

"Our approach to the problem of rapid population growth should therefore include a strong and determined family planning programme as part of a package which includes other types of investments in human resources," she said.

"I would argue that among priorities for social investment, those with a direct effect on women should be placed at the top," she said.

She said that in 1990 alone, 90 million to 100 million people, or about the combined population of the Philippines and South Korea, will be added to the world's population.

"By and large, the biggest increases will happen in the poorest countries, those by definition least equipped to meet the needs of the new arrivals and invest in their future," Sadik said.

She said that in 1984, population growth was slowing everywhere except in Africa and parts of South Asia, but the decline was not enough.

"Today, the situation looks less promising," Sadik said. "Progress in reducing birth rates has been slower than expected."

Unless the trend is reversed soon, she said, the world's population by the end of the next century most likely would reach 14 billion rather than the 10 billion to 11 billion now projected.

She said many Asian governments have declared a determined effort to reduce population growth, but many countries continue to grow at an average of 2 to 2.5 per cent annually.

"One consequence of rapid population growth is to hold back or cripple altogether the prospects of balanced development," she said. "In rural areas, landholdings are already small, generation by generation they are growing smaller, and their owners poorer.... (Population growth) has swallowed up most of the benefit from investment and services."

The population growth also threatens food supplies and the environment, she added.

UNESCO doors now open for UK, US

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# 'You've won Luella: generosity didn't cost

BENNINGTON, Vermont, Feb 21, (AP): An out-of-court settlement has been reached in a closely watched case in which a 92-year-old widow was being sued because she loaned her great-nephew money to buy a car that was involved in a crippling accident.

The settlement, reached yesterday on the first day of a negligence trial, reportedly allows Luella Wilson to keep her home and saving, valued at \$950,000 altogether. The settlement effectively overturned a 1987 jury verdict that penalised Ms. Wilson for loaning

Willard Stuart the money to buy a car despite his having no driver's licence, no insurance and a poor driving record.

Shortly after purchasing the car, Stuart drove it off a bridge after drinking beer and whiskey and smoking marijuana. A passenger, Mark Vince, was partially paralysed.

The case was of great interest in the legal and business communities because a decision likely would have set a wide-ranging precedent.

But shortly after noon yesterday Wilson

received a telephone call from her lawyer. "You've won, Luella. You can keep your land and we have won the case," he was quoted as saying.

None of the parties to the case would disclose details of the settlement. While refusing to reverse the 1987 decision on appeal, the Vermont supreme court later ruled that a jury should decide if the Ace Auto Dealership of Bennington and its president and salesman in the deal, Gary Gardner, should share the liability for selling the car to Stuart.

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# Kaifu picks tainted veteran

TOKYO, Feb 21, (AP) Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, reshuffling his administration after his party's parliamentary election victory, will give a leading party post to a veteran politician linked to a major influence-peddling scandal, party officials said today.

Kaifu met with Ichiro Ozawa, secretary general of the Liberal Democratic Party, and agreed to appoint former Agriculture Minister Mutsuki Kato as chairman of the party's policy and research council, said the officials, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Kato, 63, was among 16 politicians who profited from cut-rate stock shares offered by the information conglomerate Recruit Co., accused of trying to buy influence. The scandal, which also involved dozens of bureaucrats and businessmen, had contributed to a plunge in the governing party's popularity last year.

The party pledged then it would refrain indefinitely from appointing those linked to the scandal to party and cabinet posts.

But after Sunday's elections for the lower house of Parliament, Kaifu said the victory was a vote of confidence by the people and the result "signifies a form of purification" from the taint of scandal. Kato was among 275 Liberal Democrats who won seats in the 512-member lower house.

Ozawa was expected to retain the party's No 2 position when the party appointments are formally announced, possibly later this week. Kaifu also is reshuffling his cabinet.

Commenting on Kato's appointment, political analyst Masaya Ito said Kaifu apparently had no choice but to accept recommendations by leaders of intra-party factions.

Kaifu has a weak power base within the party. He was chosen as prime minister last August after Recruit's knockdown of powerful party veterans out of the running.

Noboru Takeshita had resigned as prime minister in June to take responsibility for the Recruit scandal. Then, after the scandal and an unpopular new sales tax led to the governing party losing its majority in Parliament's upper house in elections in July, Takeshita's successor, Sosuke Uno, stepped down.

The Liberal Democratic Party, which has ruled Japan since it was formed in 1955, is made up of four major and two minor factions. For Kaifu, who belongs to a small faction of only 35 lawmakers, support from at least two large factions is essential to stay in power.

Leaders of each faction already have submitted to Kaifu a list of faction members they want included in the new administration. Party officials say the list includes at least five names linked to the Recruit scandal, such as former Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, former Defence Agency director-general Koichi Kato and Kato.

Two politicians are among 12 people on trial in bribery and other charges in the scandal. One did not seek re-election. The other, Takao Fujinami, a former chief cabinet secretary, retained his parliamentary seat in Sunday's voting.

# China will not execute hijacker

TOKYO, Feb 21, (AP) The Chinese government has notified Japan that it will not sentence to death a Chinese hijacker who forced a Chinese airliner to Japan in December, a major Japanese newspaper said today.

The Chinese assurance was made recently to Japanese judicial authorities, the newspaper Mainichi Shimbun said.

China instead will try Zhang Zhenhai under article 107 of the Chinese criminal law concerning charges such as demolition or subversion of aircraft, trains, cars and ships. The law stipulates up to 10 years imprisonment, the daily reported.

The report said the Chinese government also stated that there was "no proof" Zhang took part in the pro-democracy demonstrations in Tiananmen Square last June as he claimed to Japanese officials.

Justice Ministry officials have refused to comment on the newspaper report.

Zhang, of China's Hebei province, hijacked the Air China plane with 223 people aboard on a flight from Beijing to New York on Dec 16. The plane flew to Fukuoka, in western Japan, after South Korea refused to let it land.

The president of one of China's leading law schools recently forced to step down from his post for being overly sympathetic to his students during last spring's protest movement, Chinese and Western sources said today.

Jiang Ping, the liberal president of China Politics and Law University in Beijing, was ordered to resign last week. Jiang had originally expressed a wish to step down from his post last summer but was persuaded not to by his students, the sources said.



Wuerkaixi sits with human rights attorney Alain Lestournaud.



Slashing protest  
Two Vietnamese boat people slash their stomachs in protest against the British colony's policy on refugees just days after a fellow inmate committed suicide. (Reuters wirephoto)

# Taiwan orders tough action

Move against reform

TAIPEI, Feb 21, (AP) Senior government officials met in emergency session today and ordered police to take tough measures to prevent a repetition of the rioting that injured more than 100 people the day before.

The 15-hour street battle yesterday in downtown Taipei between police and pro-democracy demonstrators was one of the most violent riots since martial law was lifted in 1987. The protesters burned police vans and smashed windows in the legislative building during the fighting.

The demonstrators, mostly supporters of the opposition Democratic Progressive Party, were demanding replacement of aging legislators of the ruling Nationalist Party who last faced election on the Chinese mainland more than 40 years ago.

Premier Lee Huan today headed a meeting of cabinet members and security officials and instructed police to arrest rioters and send them to courts for punishment.

Five people accused of setting fire to police vans have been arrested, said Taipei police deputy chief Wang Hwa-Cheng, and a hunt for other protesters was under way. He pledged to "take strict measures to protect senior lawmakers and to prevent future violence."

Wang said 63 police were injured in the rioting, including one officer hospitalized with head injuries. Newspapers reported that about 50 other people, including protesters, spectators and photographers, were wounded.

Chiang Kung-Liang, an 82-year-old lawmaker who fainted yesterday during the rioting, said he would file for retirement in two months to protect his health.

"They were too tough to senior legislators," he said of the protesters. The Nationalist Party condemned the rioting.

"Democracy involves peaceful, rational negotiations — not violent confrontation," said party spokesman James Chu.

But the opposition party accused authorities of starting the violence, saying riot police lost control and attacked protesters.

"The ruling party should expedite democratic reforms as the only way to put a stop to such confrontations," the party said in a statement.

# Vietnam rights reforms lauded

BANGKOK, Feb 21, (AP) Communist Vietnam has undertaken major human rights reforms in the past three years but many of the measures have not yet been implemented and serious violations continue, a new Amnesty International report says.

The London-based human rights monitoring group welcomed the reforms under the campaign of "Doi Moi," or renovation, since promulgated in 1986 by the Communist Party leadership in December 1986.

New legislation provides for development of an independent judiciary and contains such principles as the presumption of innocence, the right not to be detained without a court order, the right to legal defence and to choose independent lawyer, said the report, released today.

"However, many of the reforms intended to protect specific human rights have not been implemented and human rights violations continue," it said.

Many Western governments and human rights groups have accused Hanoi of widespread human rights violations since north Vietnamese forces defeated the US-backed south Vietnamese government in April 1975.

The government told an Amnesty International delegation that visited Vietnam in May 1989 that it was committed to renovation in all fields and stressed the importance it attached to the rule of law, the report said.

A copy of the report, "Vietnam, Renovation (Doi Moi), the law and human rights in the 1980s," was received in Bangkok.

The 66-page study said reports of abuses of detainees "suggest that these practices are still common and that measures to combat them are not yet adequate."

"Abusive treatment in re-education camps includes the use of solitary confinement in combination with beatings, the use of shackles or leg irons and the reduction of food rations," it said.

The report welcomed the release of thousands of people under government amnesties in 1987 and 1988, including more than 1,500 political prisoners detained without charge or trial in re-education camps since the end of the war.

It said Hanoi has told Amnesty International that it soon will free the remaining 130 former south Vietnamese government and military personnel arrested just after the war.

# Nepal, opponents reject compromise

Police disperse demonstrators

KATHMANDU, Feb 21, (Agencies) Nepal's government and its opponents rejected compromise today in a battle over western-style democracy in the Himalayan kingdom where at least 10 people have died in three days of confrontation.

Washington, one of the aid donors which help prop up impoverished Nepal's economy, has appealed for talks between the government of absolute monarch King Birendra and politicians fighting the partyless system of elected councils, or panchayats.

The appeal seemed unlikely to have much effect.

"We have always been open to dialogue within the framework of panchayat. But dialogue will not be possible in an atmosphere of violence," government spokesman Radhe Shyam Bista said.

Senior opposition leader Ganesh Man Singh, speaking by telephone from house arrest, said: "The movement will go on unless our demands are met — a multi-party system, free and fair elections and, meanwhile, an interim government representing all parties."

Bista said 10 people had died in the first three days of the opposition campaign launched on Sunday. Witnesses said most were shot by riot police confronting stone-throwing crowds.

The government admits nearly 800 people have been detained before and during the campaign for multi-party democracy. A leading human rights group says the true number is double that.

There have been protests throughout the Kathmandu valley, along the country's narrow terai plain bordering India and in remote hill towns.

"We are very sad. The government has given special instructions to police to avoid confrontation. But policemen are being attacked," Bista said in an interview at Kathmandu's Singha Durbar (lion palace) government compound.

Singh said the death toll was between 30 and 40, but this could not be confirmed independently.

Political parties, banned in 1960, have gone on functioning informally and have achieved unprecedented unity in the movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD).

"For the past 30 years we have been trying our best not to come into confrontation, but the king did not concede," Singh said.

Police hurled tear gas at three different points in the capital today to disperse demonstrators calling for greater democracy.

In Bhaktapur, some police patrols were peppered with broken bricks but the city was otherwise quiet today, residents reported by telephone.

Schools remained closed inside Bhaktapur, Sarada Manikarmi, a teacher, reported. "The town is still tense and most shops remained closed for the fourth day."

Witnesses say seven people have been killed and at least 25 others injured in pitched battles with police in the ancient town of Bhaktapur, 5 miles (8 km) east of the Nepalese capital of Kathmandu. The government has officially confirmed only four deaths in the city, a communist stronghold.

Sources in Nepal's banned political parties say they have heard of many cases of torture in which prisoners in government custody were beaten and doused with cold water.

Political analysts say popular support for the MRD has been fanned by an 11-month-old trade dispute with India, which has cut vital imports. Shopkeepers have hit hardest in the villages, where most Nepalis eke a subsistence living.

Bista denied the dispute fuelled support for the MRD.

Nepal was optimistic that India's new government, elected last November, would keep promises to improve relations with small neighbouring states, Bista said.

He said new Indian Ambassador Shreeveeras Kumar Sinha had been given the rare honour of an invitation to present his credentials, possibly tomorrow, to King Birendra at Pokhara, 200 km (125 miles) west of Kathmandu where the monarch is visiting development projects.



A Nepal examines the remains of a burnt vehicle. (Reuters wirephoto)

# Troop cut discussed

Cheney in Tokyo

TOKYO, Feb 21, (Reuters) US Defence Secretary Dick Cheney today began two days of talks with Japanese leaders on planned cuts in American military forces in the Pacific and increases in Japanese financial support for US troops here.

Cheney, on the last leg of a Pacific rim tour that earlier took him to South Korea and the Philippines, held a working lunch with Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and planned an afternoon tour of the American naval base at Yokosuka.

Senior US defence officials told reporters travelling with Cheney they expected the talks to go well and that Washington hoped for a major increase in the \$2.4 billion Japan spends annually on facilities for over 50,000 American troops.

"But perhaps the key item on the agenda will be our assurance to Japan that US commitment to Pacific allies is as strong as ever. There will be no, repeat no, reduction in our ability to respond to any (military) contingency," said one of the officials.

Officials in Japan and other regional nations have expressed fear that Washington's euphoria over political and military change in eastern Europe might spill into the Pacific, where they see little change in the threat from the Soviet Union and North Korea.

US defence officials said reporters earlier that the Pentagon is planning to cut the current level of 120,000 US troops in the Pacific by about 10 to 12 per cent over the next three years to cut costs. The move would mean a reduction of 5,000 to 7,000 in Japan, although no final decisions have been made.

# Cambodia offensive as talks resume

BANGKOK, Feb 21, (AP) Cambodian government forces reportedly launched a fierce counter-offensive against guerrilla positions today as Premier Hun Sen held peace talks in Thailand with guerrilla leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

The two leaders started talks at lunch and moved to a Thai government building to continue them. Sihanouk leads a three-party guerrilla coalition fighting the Vietnamese-installed government the past 11 years.

Their talks were being hosted by Thailand's Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan. Thailand is involved in trying to end the 11-year-old Cambodian war, although it gives military support to the guerrillas.

The Cambodians have been quarrelling over the composition of an interim government that will manage the country before a proposed general election.

Government forces attacked today morning to try to retake a base in the strategic northwestern district of Sisophon from the guerrillas of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, the guerrilla radio said. "Fierce fighting is going on" for control of the base at Kakaoh village, it said.

Government forces captured another Liberation Front base in the same district last morning, but the guerrillas retook it in the afternoon, the broadcast said.

Resistance officials and Thai military officers reported that government forces also had struck Monday night near Svay Chek, a gateway to Sisophon.

The Liberation Front guerrillas seized the town in Battambang province Dec 5 as part of the stepped up guerrilla offensive launched after Vietnam said it had withdrawn the last of its troops from Cambodia.

About 250 government soldiers backed by four T-54 tanks attacked frontline positions about 10 kilometres (six miles) from Svay Chek for five hours, said Ok Serei Sophaek.

He maintained that the guerrillas lost no ground in the attack. Eleven government soldiers were killed and 24 captured while only six guerrillas were wounded, he claimed.

# Tokyo mobilizes police

## Gang battle spreads

TOKYO, Feb 21, (AP) Hundreds of police were mobilized today to protect a Tokyo suburb from escalating violence in a gang war involving the huge Yamaguchi-Gumi, Japan's largest underworld syndicate.

The battle between a Yamaguchi-Gumi affiliate led by Masaru Takumi and the rival Nibiki-Kai broke out last Thursday, when two of Takumi's followers were beaten to death at a Nibiki-Kai office in the Tokyo suburb of Hachioji.

In a show of strength, dozens of police this morning raided the Takumi group's headquarters and several other Yamaguchi-Gumi buildings in Osaka, western Japan.

But later today, a two-ton truck was rammed into the home of Kazuhiko Yama, a Nibiki-Kai leader in Yokohama, a police official said. He said several shots were fired, but no one was injured.

After gang boss Yoshinori Watanabe, Takumi is the most powerful leader in the Yamaguchi-Gumi, which police say has a membership of about 21,000 nationwide. Police declined to estimate the exact size of the much smaller Nibiki-Kai.

Nearly a dozen fire-ups, including the fatal shooting of a Nibiki-Kai leader in Hokkaido, northern Japan, have been reported since last Thursday, and 13 Yamaguchi-Gumi and three Nibiki-Kai members have been arrested.

On Tuesday, a Yamaguchi-Gumi member turned himself in to Hachioji police after mistakenly ramming a pickup truck into a building he thought belonged to the rival gang, officers said. No one was hurt.

# Singapore premier sues Asian Wall Street journal publishers

SINGAPORE, Feb 21, (UPI) Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew has filed suit against the president of the Dow Jones Publishing Group and the Asian Wall Street Journal for libel, the attorney representing the newspaper against contempt of court charges said today.

Geoffrey Robertson, defending the Journal against the government's move to have the editor and publisher sentenced to prison disclosed the 66-year-old Lee was taking additional action against his client during the second day of a high court hearing.

Attorney General Tan Boon Teik opened the government's case by contending the journal was guilty of contempt because it published a comment criticising a Singapore court decision against the Far Eastern Economic review, a weekly magazine published in Hong Kong.

Tan told Justice T.S. Sinnathuray it was up to the court to decide whether the article brought the judiciary into disrepute and undermined the public confidence in the legal system.

The action against the journal stemmed from a piece published in the Dec 1-2 issue containing remarks critical of the high courts ruling last year that the Far Eastern Economic review made deliberate and malicious attacks on Lee. The magazine was ordered to pay 120,700 for defamation.

Tan said the comments from Peter Kann, president of Dow Jones and Co., would lead readers to believe that "the judge or the courts in Singapore would find in the prime ministers favour regardless of the merits of the case."

"This would inevitably lead citizens and others who have recourse to our courts to question the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary in Singapore," Tan said.

Kann described the review's article as "an essentially accurate portrayal of highly newsworthy events" surrounding the 1987 arrests of 22 people, mostly Catholic church workers, accused of alleged involvement in a Marxist plot to overthrow the government.

He was also quoted as saying, "solely because it was read to be critical of Mr. Lee, however, it has resulted in this unwarranted determination against the review."

Five individuals and companies are facing contempt charges over publication of Kann's comments, including Barry Wain, the journals editor Michael Wilson, the journals publisher Dow Jones Publishing Co. (Asia) Inc, the journal's proprietor Singapore Newspaper Services Ptd. Ltd., the journal's Printer and Changi International Distribution Services Ptd. Ltd.

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# Secession by referendum

## Soviet deputies propose

MOSCOW, Feb 21, (Agencies): Soviet parliamentary leaders have proposed a law allowing republics the right to secede from the Soviet Union, but their plan met initial scepticism in Lithuania where separatist sentiment has been strongest.

The law, reported by Radio Moscow's Interfax publication to have been submitted by the Supreme Soviet Presidium, provides for any secession proposal to be decided by a referendum in the republic concerned.

"The decision to secede will be made by a referendum held under a decision of the Supreme Soviet (Parliament) of a republic or at the call of one-third of the residents" over 18, Interfax said.

Interfax said a vote on secession would be considered valid if at least three-quarters of the adult population took part. It gave no other details.

A Radio Vilnius journalist, telephoned in the Baltic republic capital, quoted Agidijus Bickauskas, a Lithuanian member of the Soviet Parliament, as saying a two-thirds majority of registered voters was required for a referendum to pass.

"He described the mechanism as being very strict," the journalist said.

The head of the commission overseeing the drafting of the legislation, Georgy Tarasovich, told Britain's Financial Times newspaper in an interview published yesterday a referendum was "the most democratic way for such a decision to be taken."

He said any decision to secede required approval from the Congress of People's Deputies — the 2,250-member supreme legislature. But deputies of one republic were unlikely to overturn a decision taken by a large majority in another.

If a republic opted to secede, he said, it would take two to five years to work out a means of settling issues arising from severing links — particularly compensation for property and the issue of minority rights.

"We would expect a lot of

social problems connected with the interests of people who live on the territory of the republic but who don't want to divide their future from the rest of the Soviet Union," he said.

According to state figures, about 60 million Soviet citizens live outside the republic where their own ethnic group is predominant, about half of them Russians.

Proposed changes in the Soviet constitution are designed to give President Mikhail Gorbachev a six-year term and veto power over legislation, according to a report published today.

A draft of the proposed changes has not been published, but copies have been circulated in the Kremlin, the Washington Post reported.

Sergei Stankevich, a progressive member of a parliamentary commission that considers draft laws submitted to the Supreme Soviet, said the changes would give the Soviet president most of the powers of his French and American counterparts without many of their constitutional limitations.

However, deputies from the northern Baltic states are alarmed over provisions that impose severe restrictions on the right of republics to secede and permit authorities to crack down on "nationalist" organisations.

Deputies who have read the proposed changes told the post the draft includes the following points:

- A six-year presidential term, with the first president elected by the 2,250-seat Congress of People's Deputies, the parent body of the Supreme Soviet.
- The president could declare a state of emergency in any region without securing the consent of the relevant republic.
- The president would have wide powers to rule by decree when the Supreme Soviet is not in session.
- The president would have the right to cancel legislation adopted by the parliaments of constituent republics.

# No unity talks without big 4

## Genscher allays Moscow fears

BONN, Feb 21, (Agencies): West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher sought to calm Moscow's security fears today by declaring Bonn would not negotiate German unity with East Berlin behind the backs of the four World War Two allied powers.

Genscher said cautionary remarks this week by Soviet leaders showed a need for sensitivity about Moscow's feelings on the unity drive launched after East Germany opened the Berlin Wall last November.

President Mikhail Gorbachev yesterday demanded safeguards for the interests of all states affected in Europe.

He added that the Nato-Warsaw Pact balance of power must be left undisturbed by unity between West and East Germany, the front-line states of each alliance.



One Berlin: Tourists walk at both the East and the West German side (left) of the wall in Berlin, on Tuesday, the day after East Germany started to dismantle the wall near the Brandenburg Gate. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Activists killed in Romania

BUCHAREST, Feb 21, (Reuters): Two officials of an opposition Romanian political party were beaten to death during a national day of support for the ruling coalition, the party's leader and a prosecutor said today.

They said the two men, Toader Vasilescu and Vasile Vergescu, were attacked with hatchets on January 29 in the Moldavian city of Bacau as they put up posters for the National Peasants Party.

Cornel Coposu, president of the newly-reformed party, told Reuters in an interview that the killings took place during a nation-wide day of action by supporters of the National Salvation Front, which took power after a popular revolution in December.

Officials at the county prosecutor's office in Bacau said by telephone that the killings were being investigated. Coposu said a man had confessed.

He said the two men's tongues had been cut out during the attack.

The January 29 deaths were the first political killings since the violent revolution which swept dictator Nicolae Ceausescu from power.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said on Monday he had warned Genscher, Moscow would not remain indifferent if a united Germany joined Nato rather than turning neutral.

The neutrality element has been rejected by Western leaders as destabilising but, to placate Moscow, West Germany has said no Nato troops would be based on current East German territory in a united Germany.

Genscher said in an interview with West German radio the Gorbachev and Shevardnadze statements on the one hand reaffirmed a Kremlin commitment to the process of unification.

"On the other hand, the statements show that there are lots of psychological problems in the Soviet Union. Therefore a lot of caution and sensitivity are necessary if we are to bring the German unification process in Europe to acceptance by all relevant parties," the foreign minister said.

"The West German government has never left any doubt that the talks with East Germany would not take place behind the backs of the four powers," he said. "This can be confirmed here once more: We will not question this right (of the allied powers) to exert influence."

"This is also in the interest of the Soviet Union and all our neighbours, in East as well as in West," Genscher said.

Gorbachev yesterday warned that a united Germany must respect the current borders of Europe, and that only the four victorious World War II powers can determine Germany's final status, the official Tass news agency reported.

In an interview with the Communist Party daily Pravda, Gorbachev said Germans should decide for themselves the ways, forms and time-frame for unification. But he stressed that other countries have legitimate concerns.

"Of course, any encroachment upon the borders of other states must be ruled out," he said.

"I refer primarily to Poland — the inviolability of its post-war borders, like the borders of other states, must be guaranteed. Only an international legal act can provide such a guarantee," Gorbachev said.

East German parliamentarians warned today against a breakthrough to reunification with West Germany that could tear up East Germany's social welfare net and impoverish many citizens.

In a parliamentary debate, all parties from the communists to the Christian Democrats endorsed unification to modernise East German living standards but urged a cautious approach to minimise the inevitable social upheaval.

An East German defence official says a reunited Germany should have a merged armed force deployed throughout the country, a newspaper reported today.

But Manfred Graetz, the country's deputy defence minister and chief of staff, rejected the idea of extending Nato's territory to what is now East Germany, though he said he did not believe the area could become a "no man's land."

Solidarity leader Lech Walesa told a world Jewish leader yesterday the Jewish nation had a moral right to join talks on German unification.

"The Jewish nation, because of the enormous scale and number of Jewish victims of World War Two, has a moral right to participate in talks on German unification," Walesa said.

## Europe

**Big fire in London:** A big fire swept a five-storey office block in the city, London's financial district, near St. Paul's cathedral, early today and nighttime workers on nearby construction sites were evacuated as a precaution, police reported.

Scotland Yard said in a statement that part of the front wall of the building in Ludgate Hill collapsed into the street a few yards (meters) from the cathedral. Police closed the area to pedestrians and traffic.

Flames shot high into the air, engulfing the block which was being renovated.

No casualties were reported in the pre-dawn blaze and St. Paul's, where Prince Charles and the then-lady Diana Spencer were married in 1981, was undamaged. Completed in 1710, it stands on the site of another cathedral destroyed in the great fire of London in 1666. Eighty firemen were called to put out the fire early today. (AP)



## Talks on Jews

Solidarity chairman Lech Walesa (right) meets Edgar Bronfman, president of New York-based World Jewish Congress, for talks in the Polish city of Gdansk. (Reuters wirephoto)

**Bomb blast in Leicester:** A bomb exploded beneath an army van in Leicester Tuesday, the Ministry of Defense said, and two people reportedly were injured.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

The explosion was about 50 yards (meters) from the car park of an Armed Forces recruiting office.

"As far as I know, there are no service casualties," Press Association, Britain's domestic news agency, quoted a ministry spokesman as saying.

The explosion, which British Broadcasting Corp. television said was at 4:40 pm, shattered glass in several buildings in the centre of this city of 263,000 residents in central England.

Two people were taken to a hospital for treatment of cuts and bruises, Press Association said. The BBC said one of the injured was the woman driver of the van, who got out before the blast. (AP)

**Bishops urged to reject report:** An unpublished report that recommends homosexuals be treated with more sympathy by the Church of England is stirring controversy at a meeting of the church's policy-making general synod this week.

The report was commissioned by bishops in the synod who wanted advice on dealing with matters of homosexuality. But they decided not to publish it.

The Rev. David Hollway, a traditionalist clergyman, told the synod on Tuesday, the opening day of the three-day session, that leaked copies of the report indicated it contradicts a 1987 synod decision that homosexuals are all short of ideal Christian behaviour.

He said the leaked version appears to suggest that only one-third of the bishops hold to the church's biblical and traditional view against homosexual relationships. (AP)

**Group claim killing in Athens:** An extreme left guerrilla group claimed responsibility today for the murder of an Athens doctor who treated prison drug addicts, raising fears of more attacks.

"Revolutionary solidarity" said in a letter to two Athens newspapers it killed neurosurgeon and psychiatrist Marinos Maratos on Monday "for torturing inmates at the Korydallos prison."

Police said the group had been operating for some time, but had never before injured anyone in an attack.

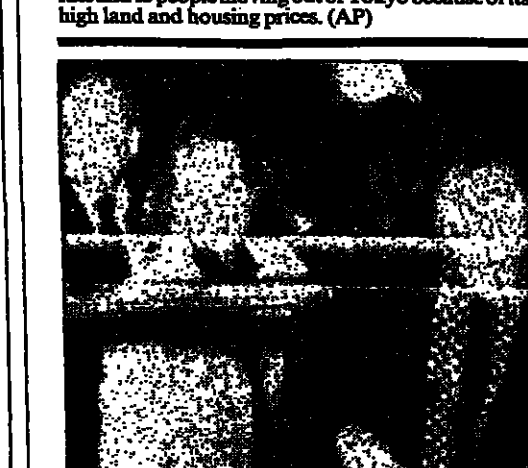
Two gunmen shot Maratos, 47, five times in the chest as he was walking to his car, parked in the wealthy Athens area of Kolonaki. The attackers fled by motorcycle. (Reuters)

**Ex-Premier De Mita quits post:** Former Italian Premier Ciriaco de Mita has resigned as president of the Christian Democrats, a move that could weaken the five-party coalition government of Premier Giulio Andreotti.

**Population of Tokyo falls:** The population of Tokyo fell to an estimated 11.9 million as of Jan. 1, down 0.11 per cent from a year earlier in its first decline in nine years, the metropolitan government said on Wednesday.

A city official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the population included 211,067 non-Japanese, among them 90,216 South Koreans, 61,860 Chinese, 15,059 Americans and 10,898 Filipinos.

The official attributed the decline to a low birth rate and to people moving out of Tokyo because of its high land and housing prices. (AP)



## Fine for Kopp demanded

The prosecution demanded just a small fine yesterday against former justice minister Elisabeth Kopp for having warned her business lawyer husband about a drug money laundering investigation.

Kopp made Swiss history when she was appointed in 1984 as the first and so far only woman member of the seven-minister governing coalition cabinet.

She resigned in January, 1989, after admitting to the Oct 27, 1988, telephone call to her husband Hans W. Kopp, and made history again by becoming the first minister to be tried on such charges.

The prosecutor asked for fines of 3,000 Swiss francs (\$2,040) and 2,000 Swiss francs (\$1,360) respectively for Kopp's former assistants Renale Schwoeb and Katharina Schopp for supplying Hans Kopp with details of the investigation. Picture shows Kopp leaves court accompanied by her daughter Brigitte and her husband Hans. (Reuters wirephoto)

**40-year-old bomb discovered:** A Chinese Army unit has safely recovered a live bomb that had lain buried under a hotel in the coastal city of Ningbo since 1949, a Shanghai newspaper said.

The Shanghai daily said in its Tuesday edition, seen in Beijing today, that an army demolition crew found the 150-kilogramme (330-pound) one-metre (3-foot)-long bomb one metre under the site of the Jiangbei Dongyuan Hotel.

It was thought the bomb was dropped in an air raid by Nationalist forces in July or August 1949, shortly before the communists triumphed in the civil war and the Nationalists fled to Taiwan. (AP)

**Death toll rises to 42:** The death toll has risen to 42 in the unexplained collapse of a factory roof in northern China, the official television news reported today.

China Central Television said 130 people were injured in the accident last Friday at the Dalian Heavy Machinery Factory in Dalian, east of Beijing. It said all but three were out of danger.

The television showed footage of the accident scene for the first time, including the four-storey concrete building with a large portion of its roof caved in. More than 300 Communist Party members had been meeting inside at the time, the report said.

It showed rescue workers carrying the injured out and crowds of medical workers in white coats meeting ambulances at hospital emergency rooms.

## Africa

**Cuban troops pullout:** Cuba and Angola have agreed to resume the withdrawal of Cuban troops from the African country Sunday, one month after the pullout was suspended, the Portuguese news agency Lusa reported Tuesday.

In a report from Luanda, the Angolan capital, Lusa said Foreign Minister Pedro de Castro van Dunem told a news conference Cuban repatriation would restart Sunday to comply with regional peace accords signed in December 1988 by Angola, Cuba and South Africa.

A report by the Cuban news agency Prensa Latina monitored in Mexico City confirmed the decision to resume the withdrawal. (AP)

**Angola used chemical arms:** A team of West European chemical warfare experts accused the Angolan government on Wednesday of using chemical weapons against its population for years, while fighting Western-backed rebels.

Belgian Professor Aubin Heyndrickx, who led a team that visited the scene of alleged attacks, collected samples and examined victims. He issued a statement to Reuters in English, through Ghent University in Belgium.

"The clinical and toxicological study show clearly that the chemical bombs have gassed the population in this region, recently and since many years," Heyndrickx said. (Reuters)

**Houphouet downfall demanded:** Hundreds of angry students demanded Tuesday the downfall of President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, and armed soldiers moved onto the campus after students set two cars ablaze in Abidjan Ivory Coast.

Students claimed soldiers and police beat one of the protesters to death Monday night when they moved into a suburban university residence, but the claim could not be verified independently.

Armed soldiers and police used batons to break up a demonstration Monday night after students set two cars ablaze at Yopougon, a suburb that has one of the many sprawling university residences. (AP)

**Bus detonates landmine, 12 hurt:** A bus set off a landmine in eastern Zambia, killing one person and seriously injuring 12 others, it was reported Wednesday.

Troops were patrolling roads and combing the bush around the scene of the blast near Luangwa, about 360 kilometres (350 miles) from Lusaka, the Times of Zambia said.

The newspaper, owned by the ruling United National Independence Party, quoted local officials as saying 60 people were travelling on the bus when the explosion occurred Tuesday about 140 kilometres (90 miles) from the border with Malawi.

**Mozambique closes schools:** The government closed all schools and suspended the start of the new school year after rejecting striking teachers' demands for a 100 per cent pay increase, according to report Wednesday in Maputo.

Aim, the Mozambican news agency, said the government suspended the start of the school year yesterday after announcing that the teachers' wage demands were "absolutely insupportable."

**'Not My Will' sale banned:** The High Court has banned the publication or sale of the memoirs of former Nigerian leader Gen. Olusegun Obasanjo.

The injunction, issued Monday and published Tuesday, came at the request of Judge Justice in The Hague, who is suing Obasanjo for allegedly libelling him in the book "Not My Will."

Elbas claims the publication portrays him incompetent in managing Nigeria's judicial affairs while he was chief justice of this West African nation in the 1970s. (AP)

# Curfew imposed on Kosovo

BELGRADE, Feb 21, (Agencies): Army troops took up position and authorities imposed a nighttime curfew today in Kosovo in an effort to quell protests by majority ethnic Albanians demanding more autonomy for the province.

In addition to the troops, Soviet-built T-55 tanks and armoured personnel carriers patrolled the streets in most Kosovo towns, "in keeping with (Tuesday's) decision by Yugoslavia's state presidency to defend the constitutional order and prevent violence," the state Tanjug news agency reported.

MiG-21 fighters streaked at low altitude over several towns, and small groups of heavily armed soldiers patrolled surrounding

villages, sources in the region said.

A 9 pm to 4 am curfew was declared, and "movements and gatherings of people for the purpose of demonstrating" were strictly forbidden by an order of provincial police chief Jusuf Karakushi, Belgrade Radio reported.

The imposition of a curfew was one of the main demands by thousands of Serbs who rallied in Kosovo Polje, a suburb of the provincial capital of Pristina, during the past three days to protest what they claimed were threats by ethnic Albanian "separatists and terrorists."

One person died and dozens were injured in clashes yesterday between security forces and tens of thousands of ethnic Albanian demon-

strators demanding free elections, an end to a year-long state of emergency and the release of political prisoners. No violence was reported today.

However, several small demonstrations were reported in the towns of Djakovica, Vucitrn and Podujevo, where police used tear gas to disperse a gathering of about 200 ethnic Albanians.

At least 28 ethnic Albanians, who make up 90 per cent of Kosovo's 1.9 million population, have been killed in the province since January, according to official figures.

The Serbian government said the move was necessary to protect the minority Serbs from alleged harassment by Albanians.

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# Attempts underway to smooth PLO-Egypt ties

KUWAIT, Feb. 21, (AP): Press reports said today that mediators hoped to arrange a meeting between Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to ease ties strained by a bus attack in Egypt that left nine Israeli tourists dead.

"We look forward to seeing President Mubarak intervene to put an end to what we can call the present banquet of defamation rather than constructive criticism," said Hani Al Hassan, Arafat's political advisor, to a Kuwaiti daily newspaper.

"We don't find any justification for this campaign in the wake of the bus attack," he said.

Saudi Arabia's newspaper Asharq Al

Awsat today quoted unidentified sources in Cairo as saying that Arab efforts were underway to arrange the Arafat-Mubarak get-together "to liquidate the reasons for the conflict."

The Saudi paper, which did not name the mediators, referred to tension in the PLO-Egypt ties, and other papers in the Gulf Arab capitals have been playing up what they call a "crisis situation" between the PLO and Egypt.

No date for a meeting was mentioned. Egypt's government-run newspapers have criticised the PLO for its failure to sharply condemn the Feb 4 attack.

The strain developed into a war of words between the newspapers and leading PLO

figures. The newspapers attacked PLO figures by name, ridiculing them for fighting their revolution from luxury hotels.

In a separate development, Hassan said the PLO and Syria "have taken an important step toward normalisation of relations" as Syria was releasing batches of Palestinian detainees every week.

"Though those releases do not exceed hundreds, we consider it an important step on the part of Syria," he added.

Relations between Syria and the PLO have been strained since 1983, when President Hafez Assad backed renegade Palestinian groups trying to wrest control of the PLO from Arafat.

Meanwhile, Faisal Hussein, a pro-PLO

leader considered a potential peace negotiator, said Jewish settlers could remain in the occupied lands once a Palestinian state was established if they agreed to integrate into Arab villages.

"People who want to live in mixed Jewish-Muslim-Christian villages, that's fine, but there will be no room for ghettoes," Hussein told 200 Israeli activists of a newly formed peace movement of Sephardic Jews from slums and disadvantaged towns.

Hussein, speaking in Hebrew, said that the more than 70,000 Israelis who live in the occupied lands would have to agree to live under Palestinian rule if they wished to remain.

# Soviet Union won't stop Jew exodus

## Settlement in Palestine wrong: Gerasimov

MANILA, Feb. 21, (Agencies): Moscow opposes the emigration of Soviet Jews into the occupied West Bank, but will not stop them going to Israel, Soviet spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said today.

He told reporters in Manila a decision by Israel to allow Soviet Jews to settle in the occupied West Bank "is a violation of the Geneva convention which prohibits this kind of procedure."

"We are very much against Soviet Jews being sent to the occupied territories. If they go to Israel, it's okay. If they go to the occupied territories, it's wrong," said Gerasimov.

Gerasimov said Moscow did not have any plans to slash or impose limits on the number of Soviet Jews going to Israel.

"We have freedom of emigration. They can go Tel Aviv. What can we do?"

The United States may accept up to 100,000 Soviet immigrants this year, most of them Jews, the US ambassador to Jordan was quoted as saying.

The Arabic-language Al Dustour quoted Roscoe Suddarth as saying the United States had raised its ceiling for Soviet immigrants to 50,000 out of a total intake of 120,000 refugees in fiscal 1989.

The Soviet charge d'affaires in Iraq today joined other Soviet diplomats in the Arab world in trying to smooth local alarm over the immigration of hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews into Israel.

The weekly Alif Ba'a quoted Alexander Kalugin, the ranking Soviet diplomat in Baghdad, as saying the Soviet Union has no plans to allow direct flights for Soviet Jews from Moscow to Israel.

"The talk about an air bridge between Moscow and Tel Aviv is not true as there are no direct flights ... and we have no intention at the time

being of opening one," he said.

The Soviet official said Moscow has been under pressure from Washington to allow direct flights but the US appeals have been turned down.

The Security Council postponed the discussion of the Soviet Jewish immigration in the occupied Palestinian territory for a week or two awaiting the outcome of the visits by a delegation of Arab foreign ministers to the capitals of the council's five permanent members.

Sources in the council told Kuna that it is a possibility that the delegation who will visit Washington by the end of this month will come immediately afterwards to the UN to participate in the council's debate on the subject.

The foreign ministers of the 12 European Economic Community nations have urged Israel not to settle Soviet Jews in the occupied West Bank, saying such a policy would endanger the Middle East peace process.

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# Amman denies joint air squadron

## AMMAN, Feb. 21, (Agencies):

Jordanian Premier Mudar Badran confirmed yesterday that Iraq was training Jordanian pilots to help maintain their competence in the air, Amman radio reported.

But Badran denied Israeli newspaper reports that Jordan and Iraq had formed a special joint air squadron, the state-run radio said.

"There are Jordanian pilots who are in need of training in the field of aviation, to maintain their competence in the air and high standards in the air force," Badran said.

"The Iraqi brethren are taking care of their training," he said.

An Israeli military official, commenting earlier this week on the reported formation of a joint Iraqi-Jordanian squadron, said the move did not pose a serious military threat to the Jewish state.

Jordan is linked with Iraq, Egypt and North Yemen in the four-member Arab Co-operation Council (ACC), an economic and political but not military grouping.

Turning to Jordan's earlier call for the revival of the so-called eastern front against Israel, Badran said nothing had yet materialised on the formation of a common deterrent force among Jordan, Iraq, Syria and the PLO.

"But we are willing to discuss this at the next Arab summit," Badran was quoted as saying.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said that Israel must be vigilant to ensure that Iraq does not use the formation of a joint Jordan-Iraq air force training squadron to threaten the Jewish state.

Rabin told parliament's foreign affairs and defence committee that the reason behind the co-operative agreement was not to confront Israel but to "give Jordan more internal backing."

He told Israel radio after the session that "we must closely watch and follow, and guarantee that Jordanian territory is not used as a base for Iraqi presence and actions."

Israeli leaders have warned of possible threats from Iraq following the August 1988 ceasefire in the Gulf war.

But Lieutenant General Dan Shomron said a joint Iraqi-Jordanian air force training squadron did not pose a threat to Israel but reflected King Hussein's fears about Israeli intentions.

Independence and the preservation of the (Lebanese) Forces and we are ready to accept anything," Geagea said in an interview with the London-based Lebanese newspaper Al Hayat.

"We are ready to combine the military effort with the army and the general within the framework of a joint command," he added.

Geagea said the Lebanese were fed up with both militia and army — "both I and Aoun must resign."

Security sources said snipers killed two people and wounded five, including a six-year-old child.

The LF said in a statement one militiaman was killed and one wounded when they were trying to save civilians hit by army sniper fire in Dbayeh, north of Beirut.

Meanwhile, a military source close to Geagea's command said the Christian militia has adopted a new military plan to thwart expected efforts by Aoun to storm through its isolated pockets of resistance in East Beirut.

The plan also aims at defending the militia's main stronghold and powerbase in the Christian hinterland of Kesrouan, north of Beirut, said the source.

The plan was reported after Geagea flatly rejected Aoun's demand to disband his militia, saying the 54-year-old general should make concessions.

The Afghan Islamic Press, quoting information received from the area, said explosions continued for a long time after the crash.

CAIRO, Feb. 21, (UPI): An Egyptian Islamic fundamentalist lawmaker called for the sacking of the country's culture minister for promoting films and plays lacking a Muslim religious message.

The lawmaker also called for the Western-oriented government of President Mubarak to do more to promote Islam.

Also yesterday, a weekly Cairo Islamic newspaper said the government should act to ban the sale of liquor throughout the country, whatever the consequences to tourism and the nation's cash-strapped economy.

Islamic fundamentalist influence in Egypt has grown since the 1981 assassination of President Anwar Sadat, even though the government has tried to curb their clout by various acts, such as the banning of kissing and traditional belly-dancing scenes from state-run television.

Egyptian government officials have often expressed fears that a sharp deterioration in the country's economic situation could promote a fundamentalist back-lash.

Egypt's new Interior Minister Maj. Gen. Abdel Halim Moussa, admitted earlier this month that some 700 fundamentalists were being held in jail under



Israeli Arab Knesset members during a protest in front of the prime minister's office. Arab parliamentarians accused the Israeli government of discrimination against Arab citizens and demanded emergency funds to bail out striking Arab municipal councils. Placard at left reads, 'Prime Minister and Ministers, give respect to the Arab public in the state of Israel.' From left to right: Hashem Mahamid, Abdel Wahab Darousha, Mohammed Naffa, Hussein Fares and Mohammed Miar. (Reuters wirephoto)



Masked Palestinians led by a drummer march to commemorate the second anniversary of the death of Abdullah Attaya and the 21st anniversary of the DFLP. (Reuters wirephoto)

# Shamir obstacle to peace — Ghali

CAIRO, Feb. 21, (Agencies): Israel's prime minister is blocking Middle East peace with "obstacles after obstacles," an Egyptian minister said, and the resulting turmoil breeds terror attacks against Israelis.

The comments by Butros Ghali, state minister for foreign affairs, constitute the harshest criticism of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir by a top Egyptian official since peace moves began in earnest last May.

In the final analysis, the thrust of Ghali's reasoning would be that Shamir was responsible for anti-Israeli terror.

Ghali also alleged in an interview published today that the United States is contributing to the problems of the region with rules that he said force Jews leaving the Soviet Union to go to Israel.

On Shamir, Ghali charged that the Israeli leader is the sole impediment to current US-led efforts to organise a peace dialogue in Cairo between Israelis and Palestinians.

"The only obstacle so far has been Israel's reluctance to keep up with the peace tide and the insistence of the Israeli prime minister to plant obstacles after obstacles to prevent the start of real movement toward peace," Ghali said.

In the interview with the state-owned weekly Al-Mussawwar, he blamed the absence of peace for terrorist acts such as a Feb 4 attack on an Egyptian tour bus which killed nine Israelis.

He said the ambush was "as much an aggression against Egypt as an aggression against foreign nationals on our soil."

"But if we look for the roots of such incidents, they lie in Egypt or Israel itself, or London or Paris, we undoubtedly will find that the absence of peace remains a condition that spawns such incidents."

"Israel's persistent refusal to talk with the PLO despite the fact that it is the principal party qualified for the dialogue under a full mandate from the Palestinian people inside (the occupied territories) and outside shows a position that is not serious about peace," Ghali said in the interview.

Ghali criticised the United States because it tightened US immigration rules by funneling thousands of Soviet Jewish immigrants to Israel. Some are settling in the occupied lands.

Ghali said Egypt "cannot possibly interfere" with the Soviet Union's liberalisation of travel for its citizens.

"The United States bears a fundamental responsibility, because its decision to limit the immigration of Soviet Jews opens the way for pressure on Moscow to route emigration in Israel's direction."

He called on the United States to ease limitations on Soviet Jewish immigrants. He also urged both the United States and the Soviet Union to show equal regard for the human rights of Soviet Jews and Palestinians.

Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and his US counterpart James Baker will discuss Middle East peace efforts again this week, but Israeli political sources expect no breakthrough.

**Palestinian team in Cairo:** Senior PLO officials discussed ways of reviving the Middle East peace process with their Egyptian counterparts in Cairo on Wednesday, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) executive committee members Mahmoud Abbas and Abdullah El Hourani met Osama El Baz, senior adviser to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. (Reuters)

**Turkey names new FM:** Turkey's prime minister named his deputy Ali Bozer as foreign minister on Wednesday to succeed Mesut Yilmaz who resigned after inter-cabinet differences.

Foreign Ministry officials said they did not expect any policy changes under Bozer, a 66-year-old former law professor and advocate of Turkey's drive for European Economic Community (EEC) membership.

**Morocco denies allegations:** Prime Minister Azeddine Laraki declared astonishment on Tuesday at what he called a misguided campaign led by Amnesty International accusing Morocco of holding political prisoners.

In a letter to Peter Duffy, the London-based human rights group's executive director, Laraki said Amnesty failed to distinguish between political prisoners and common criminals. (AP)

**Snowstorms in Turkey:** Snowstorms raging in eastern Turkey for three days have killed at least 15 people and 10 others are missing after a bus skidded off an icy road into a lake, news reports said on Tuesday.

The independent Hurriyet news agency said 24 people were rescued after the bus plunged into the lake Tuesday near the eastern city of Erzurum, but 10 people were missing and presumed drowned. (AP)

**Students clash with police:** Students clashed with police at colleges in Tunis and the southern city of Sfax overnight and police detained the leader of the pro-Islamic students union, a union spokesman said on Wednesday.

Police first tear-gassed to dislodge students who had been staging a sit-in at a training college for science teachers in Tunis. (Reuters)

**Heavy floods submerge Iranian township:** Four rivers in the southern Iranian province of Hormozgan burst their banks after incessant rains and flooded the township of Minab, causing heavy damage to land, houses and cattle, Tehran Radio reported on Wednesday.

**Aden establishes ties with Ireland:** The South Yemeni cabinet has decided to establish diplomatic ties with Ireland and Iceland, Aden radio reported on Wednesday.

The cabinet session, at a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Yassine Sa'ed No'man late on Tuesday, did not specify the date for the start of relations.

**Arabs plead guilty to drug charge:** Two Palestinians pleaded guilty on Wednesday to possessing and selling drugs but denied they carried up to half a kilo (one pound) of heroin, the Cyprus news agency reported.

Khaled Ramadan, 25, and Adil Yousef El Disi, 28, said they supplied a Greek Cypriot national with heroin and marijuana and said they possessed small amounts of both narcotics.

A third man charged in the case, 34-year-old Soufian Azzawi of Syria, pleaded not guilty to heroin possession. (AP)

**Rival Shiites fight:** Lebanon's rival Shiite Muslim militias fought in south Lebanon on Wednesday with mortars and machineguns.

Security sources said two people were wounded when gunmen of the Amal militia and militants of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah battled in Iqlim Al Tufah area, 40 km (25 miles) south of Beirut.



Mubarak (left) and Bashir reviewed the guard of honour in Cairo. (Reuters wirephoto)

# Cuba, Israel aiding rebels, says Bashir

CAIRO, Feb. 21, (AP): Sudan's military ruler alleged yesterday that Israel and Cuba are giving military aid to southern Sudanese rebels and that Israeli experts have been battlefield casualties.

Israeli and rebel spokesmen disclaimed knowledge of any Israeli presence with the rebels.

LT Gen. Omar Hassan Al Bashir, who chairs the military junta ruling Sudan since a coup last June 30, spoke at a news conference at the end of an official visit, his third as head of state.

"We have definite proof of the presence of Israeli experts at rebel centres for training and operational planning and of military support reaching (the rebel) movement from Israel," he said.

He said his government has "information that there have been human losses among Israelis in some battle areas."

The Sudanese leaders gave no details. But his main field commander in the South was quoted yesterday as saying that three Israeli experts were reported wounded in fighting in the Equatoria region.

Equatoria is one of three southern regions wracked by civil war since renegade Army Col John Garang's Sudan People's Liberation Army launched operations against the Muslim-dominated government in 1983. The rebellion was to press demands for autonomy and economic reforms in the South, inhabited mostly by Christians or animists of African descent.

In occupied Jerusalem, Israeli Defence Ministry spokesman Dan Weinreich said: "I don't know about such an accident, and I don't know about Israelis in southern Sudan."

# Afghan rebels shoot down military plane

PESHAWAR, Pakistan, Feb. 21, (Reuters): Afghan rebels said today they shot down a military transport plane two days earlier near the besieged garrison town of

Khost in eastern Afghanistan, killing at least 20 people.

All the dead were soldiers, a spokesman for rebel commander Jaluddin Haqqani said in the north-western Pakistani town of Peshawar, where rebel groups fighting the Soviet-backed Afghan government are based.

The plane was bringing ammunition and soldiers from the capital Kabul and was brought down on Monday by a US-supplied Stinger missile in the Zankhel area about 10 km (six miles) west of Khost, a rebel news service said.

The Afghan Islamic Press, quoting information received from the area, said explosions continued for a long time after the crash.

CAIRO, Feb. 21, (UPI): An Egyptian Islamic fundamentalist lawmaker called for the sacking of the country's culture minister for promoting films and plays lacking a Muslim religious message.

The lawmaker also called for the Western-oriented government of President Mubarak to do more to promote Islam.

Also yesterday, a weekly Cairo Islamic newspaper said the government should act to ban the sale of liquor throughout the country, whatever the consequences to tourism and the nation's cash-strapped economy.

Islamic fundamentalist influence in Egypt has grown since the 1981 assassination of President Anwar Sadat, even though the government has tried to curb their clout by various acts, such as the banning of kissing and traditional belly-dancing scenes from state-run television.

Egyptian government officials have often expressed fears that a sharp deterioration in the country's economic situation could promote a fundamentalist back-lash.

Egypt's new Interior Minister Maj. Gen. Abdel Halim Moussa, admitted earlier this month that some 700 fundamentalists were being held in jail under

# UN protests to Israel

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 21, (Reuters): The United Nations said yesterday it was lodging a protest with the Israeli Army, which it holds responsible for the killing of two UN peacekeepers and the wounding of six by pro-Israeli militiamen in Lebanon.

A spokesman for the UN secretary-general, who called the shooting "unprovoked," said the troops, all from Nepal, were hit late on Monday when the Israeli-armed South Lebanon Army (SLA) opened fire on a mile-long (1.5-km) front.

"The UN Interim Force in Lebanon (Unifil) has investigated the incident and is satisfied that the firing has originated from SLA positions in the Israeli-controlled area and is about to lodge a protest with the Israeli army," spokesman Francois Gualiani told reporters.

In a statement, Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said, "This serious and tragic incident again underlines the risks to which UN peacekeepers are exposed in their service for peace."

# Death jump

TUNIS, Feb. 21, (Reuters): Two terrified Tunisians jumped to their deaths from a speeding van after they heard a body moving in a coffin in the back of the vehicle, a newspaper said yesterday.

The daily As-Sahab said the two van passengers did not know that a fellow passenger had climbed into the empty coffin to keep warm. It said the incident happened near the southern village of Bir Al Hafi.

# Fundamentalist deputy wants Egyptian culture minister sacked

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Egypt's new Interior Minister Maj. Gen. Abdel Halim Moussa, admitted earlier this month that some 700 fundamentalists were being held in jail under

emergency regulations, after a series of clashes between extremists and security forces which left several people dead.

"I call for the sacking of Culture Minister Farouk Hosni, because he is promoting the lurid Cairo International Film Festival, and the experimental theatre festival," Hassan El Hussein, a deputy for the opposition Islamic Alliance group, told Parliament.

Hussein said he was particularly incensed over scenes at the theatre festival which showed all the cast "naked in one bed ... and making jokes about the sanctity of marriage."

"This is against Islam," Hussein said. "This minister must be sacked immediately to protect the Islamic values of our society."

Al-Shaab, one of the weekly press organs of the Islamic alliance, rebuffed government arguments that a ban on alcohol might lead to an increase in drug abuse, and said it was better for tourists not to drink liquor in hot countries like Egypt.

"There is no way you can make a distinction between liquor and narcotics ... the state must devote its energy to stage a war against alcohol and close down liquor stores," the weekly said.



# Maids absconding when on vacation with families

Gulf employers earn a bad reputation

COMPLAINTS of maids absconding while accompanying their employers on vacations to capitals of the world have been common place during the recent past, judging from the increase in the number of reports filed of such instances.

Citizens said that what is even more surprising, is that these maids abscond in foreign land without their passports which are kept in the possession of the employer as the latter has guaranteed the return of the maid after the vacation. The majority of cases have been reported in London.

Press releases published in London on this phenomenon in particular, stated that there are a large number of organisations who defend the right of maids who are subjected to harassment by Gulf employers. Some citizens said that such actions of oppression have caused Gulf citizens to earn a bad reputation in London.

A local daily spoke to two "truant" maids in London. Sally, 26 years of age, used to work in Manila at a cloth factory for wages not exceeding KD1 per day. When she heard of job opportunities in the Gulf, she paid the equivalent of KD120 to a local agency in her country, which she said was a great deal of money — the major part of which she had to borrow. She said that she left her country without having even the slightest idea of Kuwait, her employer, or the living conditions awaiting her.

She said that she was received at the airport by a driver who took her to her employer's house who was a government employee and lived with his wife and four kids.

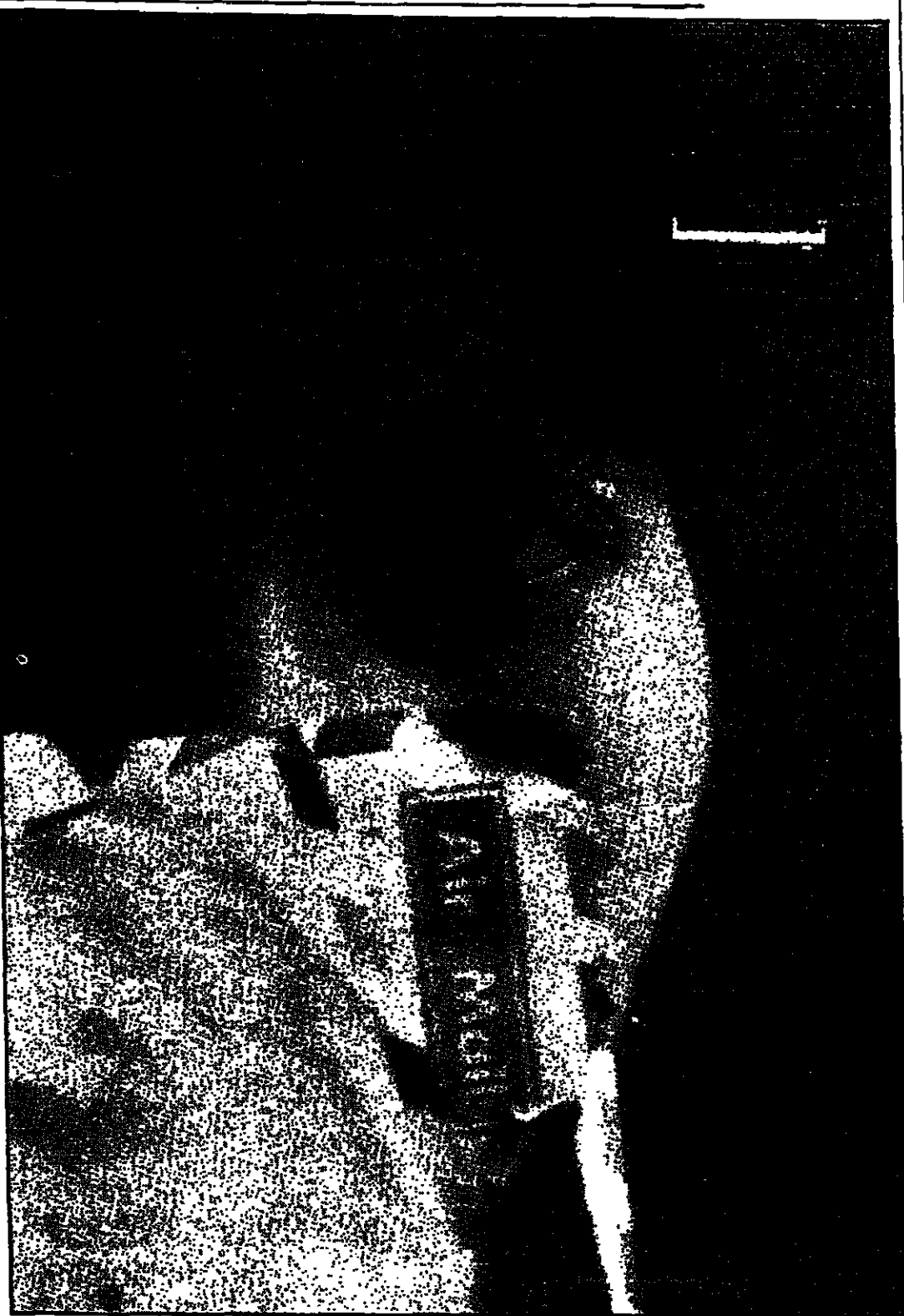
## Suffering

Sally said that her employer's wife treated her very well initially, though she had to sleep on the floor in the bedroom of the kids who stepped on her frequently. However, suddenly, her employer began to treat her harshly by calling her names and telling her that she was stupid.

She said that she had constantly to take care of the four kids, at the same time clean their rooms, iron their clothes, and cook. Subsequently, the housewife began to physically assault her. She added that she was not alone in the house — there were three other maids who suffered the same fate. She said that work started early morning and went on till midnight — everyday. Food that was given, were the leftovers of the family and even then, there was no time to eat.

She said that for four months she received no salary. When she asked for her salary, she was told that she did not deserve any salary because her work performance was bad. She added that her employer said that her embassy could not do anything in the matter of getting her salary.

Sally said that she was forced to bear with this situation for a period of three years, during which time her employer's chil-



Jessa ... treated inhumanly

dren caused her physical harm. In 1987, she said that she returned to her homeland, but her employer asked her to come back with the promise of an increase in wages. Seeing the financial conditions of her own family, Sally agreed to return.

She said that she believed that this time around, the scenario would be better, but there was no change and the higher salary did not materialise. She asked her employer for the raise, but the latter said that a raise was not in order, because her work was simple.

During the summer holidays, the family decided to go on vacation to Britain. Sally said that she was forced to sleep on the bath room floor and work was very

stressful, because the house in London was bigger and always full of guests. Even after a period of four months, she did not receive any payment and was kept a prisoner in the house.

Fed up, she decided to run away from these uncivilised employers. She climbed through the window of the third floor of the house with the aim of sliding down the sewage pipes. She ended up breaking her leg and arm when she fell and was rescued by a guard after about two hours who rushed her to the hospital where she stayed for two months.

During her stay in the hospital, Sally was visited by a representative from her embassy in London. Unfortunately, they said that they could not obtain her salary or her passport and that all they could do was to assist her to return to her country.

## Problems

She now lives in London with a Filipino family and she still has not received her salary.

Another story, involves Tessa who lived with her husband who was a teacher in the north of Philippines. All was well as their combined incomes were sufficient for the family needs. Unfortunately, a tragic accident left her husband paralysed and unable to work. This necessitated Tessa to apply for a job abroad as housemaid. She borrowed the KD 90 required by a local agency to get her a job.

She said that she left for one of the Gulf states without having any knowledge of the problems awaiting her. She arrived at the airport at six in the morning and nobody had come to pick her up

until eleven o'clock. When she was picked up, the first act of her employer was to impound her passport. She had to look after five kids, clean and wash clothes, cook the meals and sew clothes. She was granted no outings and was treated in an inhuman manner.

After two years, the family took her to London along with them for vacation. While in London, she met a woman in Hyde Park to whom she narrated her dilemma. The woman advised her to escape, which she did. She wrote her embassy of her situation and stated that she neither had any money, nor passport. Meanwhile, she said that her employer had reported her as "absconding" to the police.

To round up the issue, an interview was held with Ahmad Sadeq, owner of a housemaids office who has five years experience in the field. He said that an individual comes to the office asking for a maid, pays her transportation and completes official procedures. Subsequently, the employer is informed of the arrival of the maid.

He said that all employers have to sign a contract with the office prior to taking away the maid. Any violation of the contract, such as non-payment of wages, physical harm, etc., the office has the right to withdraw the maid and the employer has to bear the costs of repatriation. Sadeq added that the contract also includes providing the maid with adequate food, living space and prohibits the use of maids for more than one household. She said that the office brings about 25 to 30 maids per month and added that any maid who has a grievance can complain to the police station.



Sally ... kept prisoner

# Oapec obliged to play secondary role

Arab integration necessary: Wattari

THE acting secretary-general of the Organisation of Arab Exporting Countries (Oapec) (based in Kuwait) Abdul Aziz Al Wattari has said that reduction of Oapec's budget in 1987 and reducing its staff by one third prior to that date was the most serious challenge he faced during his tenure as acting secretary-general.

Confirming that he will continue in his post as assistant secretary-general of Oapec till the end of this contract at the end of 1990 he said that decisions taken by Oapec during the last period aimed at co-ordination among the member states. These decisions will be translated into facts, as the organisation works within the political framework in the Arab world, the official said.

He added that three political bodies appeared in the Arab world (co-operation councils) that began treating the oil questions directly which obliged Oapec to play a secondary role. The organisation succeeded to

organise the 4th Arab conference on energy in Baghdad in a very difficult period. We submit ideas to the Arab oil ministers to develop the oil industries. Oapec is now focusing to unify Arab efforts to build integration in Arab oil markets in order to develop the market. He added that integration can be made by giving sacrifices by state members specially in field of oil refining and petrochemical industries where 90 per cent products are exported by Arab countries to the international market, he said.

Oapec aims at developing the marketing position of state members to occupy an advanced status in the Western markets that absorb most of Arab oil exports. The Arab integration in this vital industry was seriously injured as a result to the Arab disputes like the closing of Iraqi oil exports through the Syrian lands that caused a political dispute between two countries, Wattari said.

# Marine environ protocol signed

KUWAIT, Feb 21, (Kuna): Six out of eight countries littoral to the Arab Gulf signed here today a protocol on protection of marine environment.

Representatives of Bahrain, Iran, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and the host country, Kuwait, signed the agreement shortly before a ministerial meeting of the Regional Organisation for Protection of Marine Environment (Ropme).

Iraq and Oman did not sign due to technical reasons pertaining to approval of the protocol by the councils of ministers in the two countries.

## Procedures

Co-ordinator-general of Ropme Badriya Al Awadi told Kuna that Iraq and Oman would sign the protocol after necessary procedures were made.

In an address before the signing ceremony, Kuwait's Planning and acting Health Minister Abdel Rahman Al Awadi said the protocol would contribute considerably to the protection of marine environment against pollution from land-based sources.

The minister called on Iran and Iraq to take part in clearing the Arab Gulf waters of all kinds of debris. Welcoming the conferees, Kuwait's acting Foreign Minister undersecretary Faisal Al Sahih Al Mutawa expressed his pleasure at the signing of the protocol on the eve of the country's celebrations of its 29th National Day anniversary.

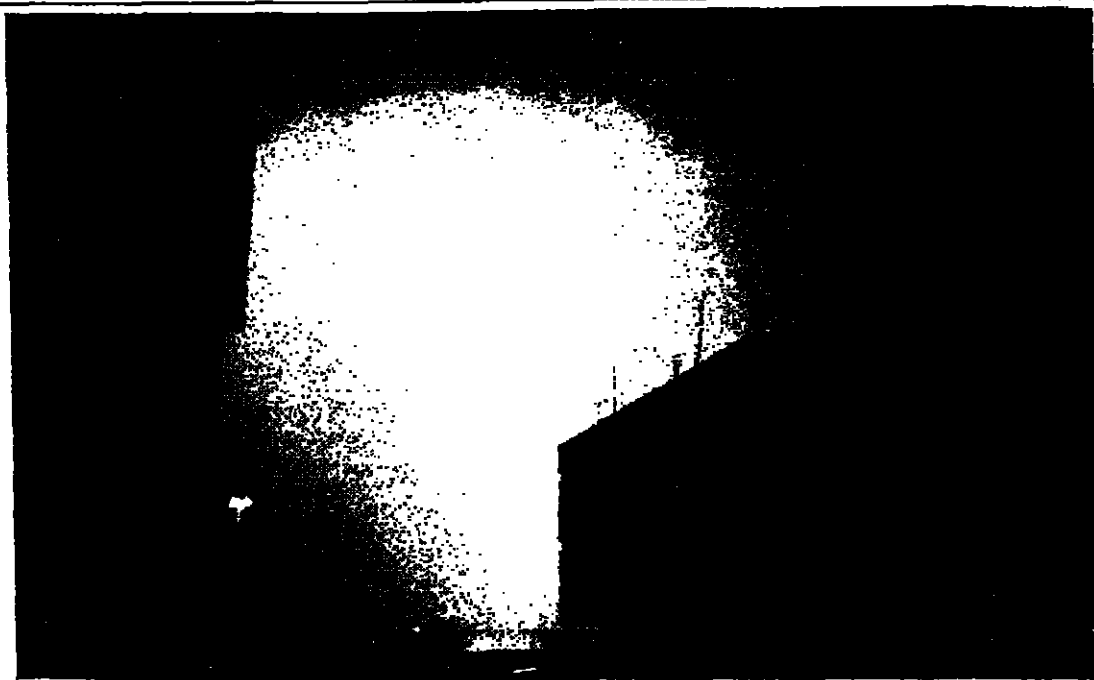
## Support

He reiterated Kuwait's financial and material support to the Kuwait-based organisation to help it realise its objectives.

Badriya underscored that regional co-operation was the corner stone for halting ecological deterioration, urging the member states to co-ordinate efforts with the organisation in implementing the protocol.

She said the ministerial meeting which went into session following the signing of the protocol would discuss among other issues the organisation's plan for the upcoming two years and a report by its executive secretary on activities during the past two years.

Saudi Arabia is the chairman of the current session.



Rend the skies

Bader Nabboud, an Arab Times reader took this picture on Feb 9, 1990. All the glory of a massive bolt of lightning has been captured.

## Qurain project

# No construction on danger site: NHA

THE National Housing Authority has responded to an article published by a local daily directly claiming possession of documents and verified information that part of the Qurain housing project site is potentially dangerous for construction as it has been used as burial ground for garbage and industrial wastes for the past ten years. The slow decomposition of interred material emitted methane, a dangerous gas of high explosive nature, the local daily had also said.

The NHA said in a letter signed by director-general Majed Al Shaheen that it has been aware of this matter all the time and that this part of the site was not used for construction. It added that Kuwait Municipality had been informed of the matter upon receipt of the Qurain project site.

## Safety

The letter reaffirmed the high concern of the NHA and all government agencies for the safety and security of inhabitants and that, aware of all these facts, the NHA has deferred the use of this part of the site until all buried wastes had been removed and the area cleaned and prepared for future construction.

The latter pointed out that specialists from France, Sweden and the US were contacted for feedback on their experience in these matters, and consequently a total area of 200,000 square metre has been cleaned of interred wastes and backfilled with clean soil.

The letter made clear that the light shed on this matter reflected the deep concern and care by the government and protection of citizens.

Meanwhile, the subject has stirred another response from the Environmental Protection Council,

and secretary Ibrahim Hadi revealed the NHA had written to the council on August 24, 1988 asking that part of the Qurain project site in sector A-1 which was used as a burial ground for industrial and human wastes, be utilised for building public park.

He said that the NHA expressed its preparedness to co-operate with the council, the Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources Authority and Kuwait Municipality to reach an appropriate solution to the problem.

## Committee

He added that the council had formed a committee from representatives of the Environment Protection Department, Kuwait Fire Department, the NHA, Ministry of Defence, Kuwait University and Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research which undertook consideration of study of the problem in which the rate and volume of emanating gases were gauged and lab tests to ensure that underground water had not been contaminated were also undertaken.

The committee studied the report submitted by the department and formed work teams to solve the different engineering, sanitary and environmental aspects of the problem and propose recommendations on the best possible solution. He pointed out that the findings were submitted in a report to the council which referred the matter to the minister of state for housing affairs to have the NHA co-operate with the council and all relevant government agencies to further the ongoing studies in this respect and approve recommendations for a radical solution to this issue.



Police officers course

Officers taking part in the third public relations training course currently taking place at the Police Officers Training Institute paid a visit to Kuwait TV and Radio to familiarise themselves with the activities of these media.

The course groups 25 officers with three from Yemen Arab Republic and one from Oman.

# Amman radio praises visit by Sabah

KUWAIT, Feb 21, (Kuna): Radio Amman yesterday praised the outcome of the visit by Kuwait Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad to the kingdom of Jordan.

The radio, monitored here, said that Sheikh Sabah had during his visit with Jordanian Premier Mudhar Badran on the current situation on the Arab front.

The two sides expressed identical views toward all issues discussed, particularly the Jewish exodus to occupied Palestine, the radio noted.

It said that Sheikh Sabah had affirmed Kuwait's economic and moral backing of Jordan.

It added that Kuwait and Jordan reiterated the need to continue support of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, through the holding of an international peace conference.

The two sides also expressed solidarity with efforts aimed at bringing lasting peace between Iraq and Iran, the radio said.

## Pak message

RIYADH, Feb 21, (Kuna): Saudi Monarch King Fahd Bin Abdulaziz yesterday received a message from Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

The Pakistani Justice Minister Iftikhar Hussein Gilani delivered the message during an audience with King Fahd. Radio Riyadh reported but did not disclose the contents.

# Unprovoked attack on journalist in the streets of Bahrain

By Yakub Razzaque  
Arab Times staff

THE scenario could easily have re-enacted from a page of 'The Clockwork Orange' Kingsley Amis' famous novel of the sixties depicting mindless violence by rebellious youth. We are supposed to be living in a 'civilised society', yet whichever age we live in it appears that good decent folk everywhere are constantly plagued by the spectre of senseless and cruel criminal assault. For indeed there is much to be desired from our 'civilisation' when we cannot walk in our urban streets after mid-night without being brutally beaten by unknown assailants for no particular reason.

This kind of thoughtless and unprovoked violence has become a

cruel reality of our times wherever we may live. Modern cities world-wide are increasingly becoming or have already become veritable 'concrete jungles' where violence is rampant as the criminal class is on the rise.

Last Saturday night I became a victim of such mindless violence. The fact that I escaped serious injury or even death is miraculous. I shudder to think of the consequences that could have been. I experienced this 'nightmare' shortly after midnight. I was walking back to my flat in Ghudhaibiya from a nearby hotel after a drink with colleagues from the local English daily. After crossing the main road on my way to my residence I was suddenly attacked by a man.

Stunned by a vicious blow to my stomach I collapsed on the footpath.

What followed was a barrage of kicks all over my face and body which continued for at least five minutes. My assailant delivered at least fifteen solid kicks to my face, nose, head, left side of my torso and chest with the fury of a demented individual. As a result my spectacles were destroyed, nose bloodied, face puffed up and whole left side of the body overcome with excruciating pain.

What seemed an eternity, these five minutes were the longest and the most frightening of my life. My initial reaction to this physical torture, I recall, was one of total bewilderment and shock. More than the pain I suffered I wanted to know why this was happening to me for no reason and of all places in Bahrain. I was born and have lived in this beautiful island nation all my

life and never experienced such a horrendous moment. For indeed never in my wildest nightmares had I expected such a thing to occur in Bahrain, a most peaceful and orderly country if there ever is one.

While I lay writhing in agony I managed to catch a glimpse of my adversary, who just seemed to walk away after this demolition job as if he was taking a stroll in the park. There was no sense of urgency or panic in his stride. His face was lifeless. I shall never forget those intimidating eyes shown of a killer after snuffing the life of a helpless victim. There was no doubt in my mind that my assailant was a young man in his twenties of Filipino origin. What astonished me even more was that this man, probably a few years younger than me, hardly said a

word to me as he battered me mercilessly and walked as quietly as a hired assassin. I wondered what drove him to this extreme act. I could not ascertain whether he was drunk or drugged. I had never seen him in my life. I can only conclude that this was an act of a lunatic suffering a lapse of intending to cause bodily harm to anyone crossing his path. I could only thank God that I could come out of this ordeal with no broken bones, loss of eyesight, broken teeth or brain damage. In fact it could even have been death.

Friends and readers may be surprised or even appalled that I did not report the incident to the police, which probably would have been the logical and sensible thing to do. Perhaps overcome with feelings of humanity and forgiveness I chose to give this un-

known stranger the benefit of the doubt. I can only wish that this man realises his folly if he has any conscience. Perhaps looking up such people is not always the answer. Who knows what was bothering this individual? I would only like to ask him why he did it?

I recently returned from a short trip to the Philippines. Ironically, in some potentially dangerous Manila spots I came out secure. My respect, admiration, and love for Philippines and her great people will not diminish by any degree by this personal tragedy. We live in a world of all kinds of people. It would, however, be sensible not to stroll in the streets after midnight in any place. Meanwhile, I have preserved my bloodstained handkerchief with the hope that this tragedy never befalls anyone.



# Olive growing attempts successful

## Boost for Kuwait pickling industry

THE director of the Plant Resources Department at the Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources Authority Jassem Al-Bader has said that attempts to grow certain species of olive have proved successful in Kuwait.

He told a local daily that experiments made by the authority had been successful in growing certain types of olives considered a tree of tremendous economic importance, adding that the experiments covered species such as Santa Catarina, Eskolana, Leischio, and that these species were characterised by their high glucose contents, and therefore they were a boost to the local pickling industry.

He said that another type of olive tree was successfully grown and that it is characterised by high wind-breaking capacity. He added that olive trees would turn productive in its fifth year.

He urged farmers to upturn the soil when tests reveal high percentage of salts or when these appear in a certain percentage close to the surface.

Bader said that certain types of cities showed high susceptibility to soil salts, which in irrigation water should not exceed 750 in each 1 million particles, and the rise of underground water level would lead to the depth of these trees.

He recommended the fertilisation of arable soil with organic chemicals that were free of diseases. It is better to irrigate reclaimed land once a week in winter and twice a week in the summer, Bader said.



Bedouin weaving ... every GCC state is now trying to preserve its traditional heritage.

# Gulf folklore enthusiasts preserving vanishing past

## Recordings on film and tape

DOHA, Feb 21, (Reuters): Folklore enthusiasts in Gulf Arab states are trying to save a rich cultural heritage which they fear is vanishing forever beneath the desert sands.

Armed with tape-recorders and cameras, researchers track down dwindling numbers of elderly people who still know the traditional songs, dances and stories of Arabia, a unique society of farmers, traders, pearl-divers and wandering Bedouin.

"Nowadays, everything we have comes from outside — the real things will disappear in a short time," said Abdulrahman Al-Mannai, head of the Qatar-based Arab Gulf States Folklore Centre.

"There are not many old people left who remember the past and every year we lose more of them. We are hurrying to collect everything while we can," he told Reuters.

In the past 30 years, oil riches have brought high-rise buildings, expensive cars, Western clothes, disco music and fast-food outlets to Gulf Arab states, riding roughshod over their ancient character.

Projects at the folklore centre include studying the region's oral folk tales, herbal medicine, and the lifestyle of the Bedouin, who depended on his camel for food, clothing and transport.

A record of traditional pearl diver chants has been produced, along with a tape cassette of Tambura music, a stringed instrument probably brought to the region by African slaves.

Mannai said the centre, with an annual

budget of seven million Qatari rials (\$2 million), was set up in 1983 by the six Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) states and Iraq.

The GCC groups Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Oman.

Traditional Gulf instruments include the Merwas, a small goatskin drum, and the Manjur, a wide cloth belt strung with hollow animal hooves which rattle as the player moves his body.

"More than 90 per cent of Gulf music is based on drumming and percussion instruments — it is rich in rhythm," said Bahrain music director Waheed Al-Khan.

"Popular music may have taken over but when a group of people get together to celebrate something they start beating makeshift drums and clapping — it's in their blood," he said.

Khan, who is working on a third cassette of music for the centre, said Gulf dance had its own style.

"We do not move like Egyptian belly-dancers...our dance steps are sensual but dignified and slow...like a camel walking across the desert," he said.

Amnah Al-Hamdan, a Kuwaiti organising folktales research, said stories told around the Gulf had some recurring themes.

Wealth was presented as life's ultimate goal, the ruling Sheikh always saved his people, and men generally had better qualities than women.

A stepmother or second wife was invariably

wicked while poor but virtuous people always managed to become rich and happy.

One popular tale was the same as the story of Cinderella, with a fish playing the role of fairy-godmother.

Hamdan said researchers had to take great care about the way they sought information from old men and women, known as Al-Rawat and Al-Rawiyat.

Some made things up because they were lonely and wanted to talk, while others refused to say anything at all.

"The old people in our society have lost their traditional function as storytellers and teachers — they have been replaced by radio and TV which are more entertaining," she said.

"It is our fault they are lonely because we embraced modern life too quickly," she said.

Every GCC state has its own heritage centre and most promote architecture, boat-building, cloth and basket weaving and other traditions.

"In the late seventies almost nothing was left of our culture," said Mohammed Ali Abdullah, head of the Qatar-based folklore centre's material culture unit.

"Suddenly people became aware of the situation and wanted to do something to preserve their identity. Nowadays people want traditional ornaments around them."

The centre's 60 full-time staff, drawn from all seven member states, have produced around 45 books, magazines, and tape cassettes in Arabic and English.

## Don't visit Thailand, Saudis advised

BANGKOK, Feb 21, (AP): The Saudi Arabian government has advised its citizens not to travel to Thailand following the Feb 12 disappearance of a Saudi businessman in Bangkok, the Thai Foreign Ministry said.

In a statement, the ministry noted news reports of the travel restrictions and said it believed the action stemmed from concern over the safety of Saudi citizens in Thailand.

"The ministry is hopeful these restrictions will prove temporary and that the situation will soon return to normal," the statement said.

"On the part of Thailand, we continue to welcome Saudi tourists, businessmen and government officials," the statement said.

A copy of the statement, dated Tuesday, was received today.

According to the most recent figures from the tourism authority of Thailand, nearly 26,000 Saudis visited Thailand from January to June 1989.

Three officials of the Saudi embassy in Bangkok were fatally shot Feb 1 by assailants who remain at large. Less than two weeks later Saudi businessman Mohammed Al-Ruwaili disappeared.

Some officials speculated the killings were connected with conflicts over the work of recruitment agencies that send Thais to work in the Middle East. The businessman was involved in labour recruitment.

The incidents have seriously strained relations between Thailand and Saudi Arabia. About 140,000 Thais work in Saudi Arabia, but the Saudi government stopped issuing visas for new workers after the Feb 1 killings.

The Thai civil court today allowed a local newspaper to publish again, at least temporarily, after police shut it down for what they called a false headline on the killings.

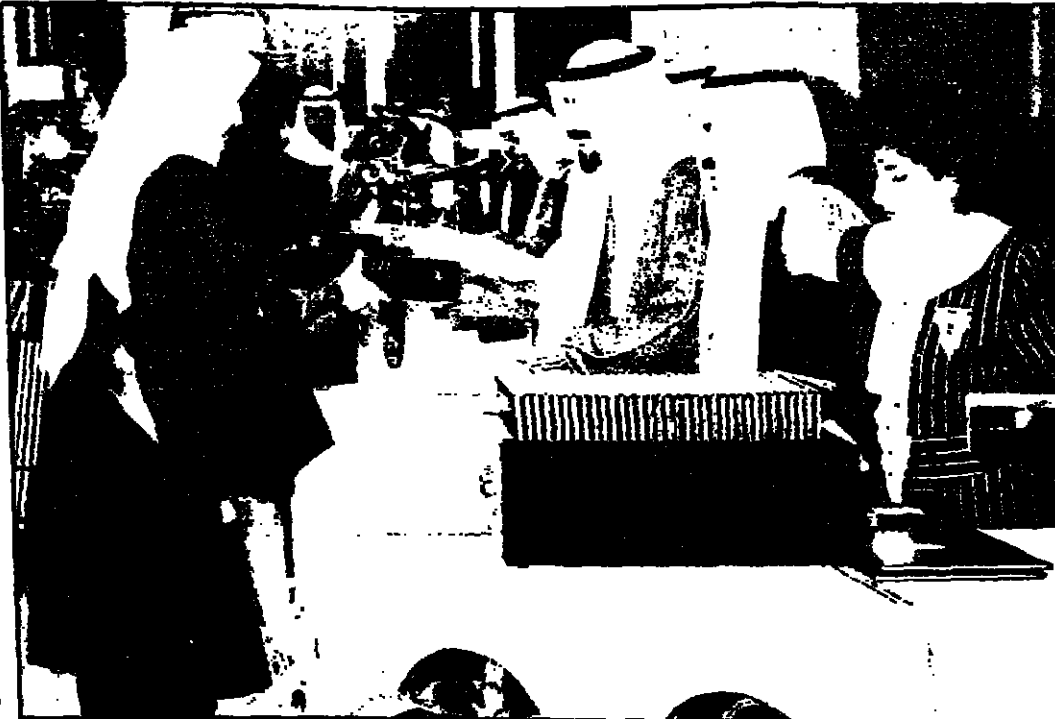
## New branch for PACI in Sharq

A NEW branch for Kuwait's Public Authority for Civil Information (PACI) will be opened at Al-Sharq area, a local daily quoted an official source at the authority as saying.

In view of the increasing expansion, the authority is planning to apply the civil information system on a geographical basis. The authority is striving to extend the best services to the public in keeping with the Amiri desire to achieve a qualitative shift in all services and facilities, the official said.

## Pak embassy

A press release from the Pakistani embassy in Kuwait has stated that the embassy will remain closed on 24th and 25th February, 1990 on account of Shab-e-Mairaj and National Day of Kuwait. It will re-open on 26th February, 1990.



Graduation ceremony

His Highness the Amir yesterday handed diplomas to a batch of university graduates in a ceremony at the Khalidiya College complex. The formal graduation of the 1988-89 academic year seniors was attended by His Highness Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al-Abdalla, ministers, senior government officials and families of the graduates.

# New university by 2000, says Shamlan

## Scholarships on merit

THE Ministry of Higher Education is planning to build a new university campus designed to accommodate 20,000 students, according to the senior-most educational official.

The university to be built at the beginning of the year 2000 will integrate the academic and research programmes of the present university and will also meet development plans of higher education, Dr Ali Al-Shamlan, Minister of Higher Education said.

He added that professional and applied educational facilities comprise 50 per cent of higher education and the country needs these facilities to meet its requirements of manpower.

Shamlan said that Kuwait University seeks to meet requirements of society in different majors and has prepared a study on the admission policy for the next three years that takes into consideration the developments of the university and public education that have appeared on the scene during the last few years. The study also accords concern to development plans and encourages students to join scientific and technological majors.

Commenting on the unemployment of some graduates, the official said that several factors were contributory. Primarily, he said, is the insistence of graduates to be provided with certain specific jobs. He added that Kuwait does need graduates and can provide them jobs — though in diversified specialisations. There is an urgent need for Kuwaiti graduates in the disciplines of chemistry, physics and mathematics.

Scholarships Shamlan categorically denied that influence is a factor in awarding scholarships among Kuwaitis wishing to study abroad. He added that the names of these students are published in the local media to ensure that all such awards are above board.

Meanwhile, Anwar Al-Nouri, the minister of education speaking at a seminar held at the Faculty of Education at Kuwait University said that Kuwait pays special concern to outstanding students and extends every assistance to them to pursue their higher studies.

He disclosed that organised concern in this respect began in early 1986 when the former Minister of Education, Dr Hassan Al-Ibrahim issued a decision to

establish an executive bureau to oversee performance and facilitate the progress of outstanding students.

Also speaking at the seminar, Dr Abdul Rahman Al-Ahmad, dean of faculty of education said that quick technological and scientific progress in the world is one of the fruits of providing every assistance to outstanding students.

He added that advanced countries concentrated on searching for and upgrading the educational acumen of outstanding students way back in the 1960's. These countries designed specialised courses tailored to develop the abilities and skills of these students. He recommended that these students should be accorded special separate classes by the government where they could receive highly specialised coaching and could possibly graduate in less than the normal time.

In a related development, the assistant undersecretary for private education at the Ministry of Education Dr Yagoub Al-Sharrah has said that the ministry agreed that private schools admit the children of stateless citizens as of the start of next year.

# Omani envoy in Tehran for Gulf war peace talks

NICOSIA, Feb 21, (AP): Oman's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Yousuf Bin Alawi Abdullah, arrived in Tehran yesterday in a new bid to break the deadlock in peace talks between Iran and Iraq, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said he was greeted at Mehrabad airport by Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati.

He was scheduled to meet President Hashemi Rafsanjani during his three-day stay, Iran reported.

The six-member Gulf Co-operation Council selected Oman to mediate in the Iran-Iraq dispute last month.

The alliance of Oman, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates sought to mediate in the 8-year Gulf war and since the August 1988 cease-fire has striven to break the stalemate in the peace talks.

The Iran-Iraq negotiations began Aug 25, 1988, five days after the United Nations-sponsored cease-fire took effect. But they have bogged down in disputes between the two northern Gulf states.

Oman shared control of the strategic Strait of Hormuz, gateway to the Gulf, with Iran and has maintained close relations with Tehran.

The Omani envoy said he will hold talks with Iranian leaders on "issues of mutual concern" between his country and Iran as well as "expansion of co-operation between Iran and the regional states."

Most of the other Gulf Arab states severed Arab Iraq against Persian Iran during the conflict. Saudi Arabia severed relations with Tehran in April 1988, citing subversion and terrorism.

STERILISED SCREWORMS TO HELP HALT SPREAD

THE US may shortly begin selling sterile screwworms to North Africa to help eradicate the flesh-eating parasite there and halt its spread to the Middle East.

A bill allowing such sales was approved Tuesday by the US House Agriculture Committee.

Last June Kuwait stepped up the control of imported animals after the Food and Agriculture Organisation alerted the authorities to the danger of infection by the pest that once plagued the Western Hemisphere. The insect was not detected in Kuwait.

The sterile screwworm flies mate with existing screwworm flies, but produce no offspring, causing the population to eventually disappear. Screwworms are monogamous.

Through intensive efforts, the pest was declared eradicated in the United States in 1982. The government has spent millions of dollars to kill it off in Mexico and through Central America so it doesn't return to the United States.

"The discovery of the pest in North Africa causes deep concern because it potentially could spread to the Middle East and Southern European nations bordering the Mediterranean sea," said Congressman Kika de la Garza, chairman of the Agriculture Committee.

The screwworm fly is a flesh-eating parasite that attacks all warm-blooded animals, including humans, and is a serious threat to livestock.

De la Garza said that in areas such as North Africa, where drought and famine have weakened human health, people are more vulnerable than normal to the insect.

## Smugglers apprehended after hot pursuit

SECURITY personnel of the Jahra Governorate were involved in a dramatic car chase and exchange of gunfire with a pickup driven by smugglers.

The patrol command at Jahra Governorate received notification that three persons in a pickup were suspected of transporting liquor along the Sixth Ring Road. The police patrol successfully located the pickup and ordered it to stop. However, the occupants opened fire and kept on driving at high speed with the police patrol in hot pursuit until the Seventh Ring Road.

Security men tried to shoot at the tyres of the fleeing car, but were unsuccessful due to the utter darkness. The pickup fled inside the desert and was momentarily lost among sheds and various companies warehouses.

Security men after locating the van, recovered 61 cases of whiskey. Unfortunately, the smugglers managed to escape under cover of darkness.

The van licence plates have been reported stolen from another vehicle. Investigations are in progress to apprehend the smugglers who are considered armed and dangerous by security authorities.



The Bangladesh flag was hoisted at half-mast (above) yesterday at a solemn ceremony in honour of the martyrs of the Bengali Language Movement in 1952. The flag was hoisted by the Bangladesh Ambassador K.M. Shahabuddin at the embassy premises in Khaldiya and the ceremony was attended by a large number of Bangladeshis.

The ambassador later opened the Bangladesh library (below), also at the embassy premises.



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تعمیر پاکستان  
Tollin-e-Baleghon  
**Juzer Al Khalij Video**  
Opp. Murqab Police Station  
Tel: 2403255  
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پاک (پاکستان چائلنج) سلطان ری-نہیں  
انڈیا وارث (پاکستان چائلنج) سلطان ری-نہیں  
نہیں  
بھٹو طلاق دو (ایچ ڈبلیو) عمر شریف  
رنگارہ-دیم ماس-نہیں  
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Those who wish to register students for K.G. to Senior-III (Matric) are requested to contact the school office from 8.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.  
Academic session 1990-91 starts from 1st April, 1990.  
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آئینہ تعلیمی سال ۱۹۹۱-۱۹۹۰ کے لئے اردو میڈیم سیکشن میں کے۔ جی سے میٹرک تک کے داخلہ کے لئے سکول ہذا کے دفتر یا فون نمبر ۴۳۱۹۵۵۵ پر رابطہ قائم کریں  
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13080 Safat, Kuwait.



## ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

AN INVASION of armies can be resisted, but not an idea whose time has come. — Victor Hugo, French writer (1802-1885).

## Saddam changes tack

## Dominant role being curtailed

BAGHDAD, Iraq, (CSM): Officially, it is still known as Nasser Square. But in a main traffic circle here in central Baghdad it is no longer the statue of the former Egyptian leader that dominates, but a giant, cast-iron likeness of one of Iraq's own former leaders, King Faisal I.

In a country whose politics for decades epitomised the revolutionary Arab nationalism espoused by President Gamal Abdel Nasser, this reminder of Iraq's conservative monarchy — toppled in 1958 by the Baathist revolution and once banned from public discussion — comes as a surprise.

This officially revised view of Iraq's once-reviled kings, political observers say, is a telling symbol of political changes taking place here as Iraq seeks to build on the unprecedented unity resulting from its 10-year war with Iran to strengthen an elusive sense of nationhood.

President Saddam Hussein's goal in the post-war era, observers say, is to find new ways of binding the allegiance of Iraqis to the state.

The effort party involves an appeal to history, including the 37-year monarchy, as Saddam seeks to reach beyond Iraq's Baathist revolution for ways to appeal to nationalist sentiment.

Saddam is gradually diminishing the dominant role of the socialist Baath Party — the agent of his 19 years of rule — in favour of cautious political liberalisation.

## Identity

"There's a stronger Iraqi identity now than before the war," says a former senior Iraqi official. "Ideology is finished and the era of slogans is gone."

Since gaining independence in 1921, Iraq has been plagued by deep division between various religious, political, and ethnic groups, exemplified by the long struggle of the nation's Kurdish minority for self-rule.

"Iraq has always had difficulty seeing itself as a nation," says a Western diplomat in Baghdad. "It has always been class versus class, race versus race, religion versus religion."

The course of fragmentation was partly lifted when Iraq's 10 million Shiite Muslims resisted the lure of the Khomenei revolution in Iran and remained loyal to the Sunni-dominated government of Saddam.

Saddam is now seeking to sustain that achievement under the more difficult conditions of peacetime.

Once tactic has been to revise the image of the monarchy, which is now lionised in official pronouncements as the vanguard of opposition to British mandatory rule in Iraq. In addition to rehabilitating the reputation of Faisal I, the government has spent over \$3 million renovating Baghdad's royal cemetery housing the remains of Faisal I, his son, Ghazi, and his grandson Faisal II.

"It's a sign of national strength to be able to say that Faisal was a great man and that Ghazi was a patriot," says Prof. Hazim Mushtak, an expert on Iraqi politics and strategic affairs at Baghdad University.

Analysts also read political significance into the speed with which the government set about the rebuilding of Basra and the frontline cities of the Faw peninsula, damaged or destroyed during the Gulf war.

## Neighbourhood

The crash programme, which last year translated rubble into residential neighbourhoods virtually overnight, is attributed to the urgency felt in Baghdad. Even now it is vulnerable to Iranian artillery under the no-war/no-peace conditions that have existed since the start of the August ceasefire.

Meanwhile, Saddam has reached into Iraq's more distant past in an effort to identify his own regime with the glories of Iraq's antiquity.

One large painted billboard at Babylon, the archaeological site of one of the most famed empires in the ancient world, depicts Saddam receiving bricks from King Nebuchadnezzar II with a charge to rebuild his city. It is an apt expression of the continuity between the old and the new that the regime is now seeking to emphasise as a way of broadening its own appeal under the new conditions of peacetime.

More important than these largely symbolic gestures is the extent to which Hussein has been willing to give his own government a long-needed facelift.

For years, the Baath Party has been the path to political advancement in Iraq. It has dominated the key ministries, including the country's national security apparatus.

But in the face of mounting evidence that the stern, socialist ideology of Baathism is losing its hold on the public imagination, Saddam has begun gradually to diminish the role of the party.

For example, he has reduced Baath influence over the state economy by substituting capable technocrats for party loyalists in key government jobs. The party's declining fortunes are also reflected in the fact that Baathists now constitute a minority of Iraq's Parliament, elected in April.

As Saddam has closed the door slightly on Baath power he has opened it slightly to greater pluralism in Iraq.

One senior Iraqi official confirms that a new constitution is now in the "final stage" of preparation and will be ready for a popular referendum "within the next few months." The document is said to call for greater press freedoms and the creation of an independent prime minister.

Other Iraqi sources say transcripts of conversations between Saddam and senior Iraqi officials regarding the legalisation of political parties are now being circulated in senior party circles, signalling the end of an era of one-party dominance in Iraq.

There are even persistent rumours that Saddam himself will eventually choose to run for election as president.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

1495 — French Forces under King Charles VIII enter Naples in Italy.

1724 — Treaty of Stockholm between Sweden and Russia for mutual assistance.

1759 — French abandon siege of Madras, India, on arrival of British fleet.

1828 — Peace of Turkmenchay by which Persia cedes part of Armenia, including Erivan, to Russia.

1848 — Revolt erupts in Paris due to failure of Louis Philippe's reign.

1942 — It is announced that tribesmen in the Philippines have wiped out a Japanese regiment during World War II.

1945 — US Third Army crosses Saar river south of Saarburg, Germany, in World War II.

1964 — Ghana becomes one-party socialist state.

1966 — Uganda's prime minister Milton Obote orders five cabinet members arrested and assumes full power.

1975 — Military government of Ethiopia announces that 2,300 guerrillas have been killed in fighting in Eritrea.

1986 — Philippines defence minister and the general who was to become armed forces chief break with government of president Ferdinand E. Marcos.

1989 — US President George Bush says he is undertaking trip to China, Japan and South Korea to strengthen key relationship with Asian "friends and partners."

## Hopes of black S. Africans on him

## Mandela yet to outline policy

CAPE TOWN, (Reuter): Nelson Mandela carries the hopes of millions of black South Africans longing for an end to apartheid, but the man widely viewed as leader of the African National Congress (ANC) displays a reticence befitting his plain rank of comrade.

Since he walked free from prison on Feb 11, Mandela has avoided any public policy initiatives despite the fact that the world's media is hanging on his every word as a chief shaper of South Africa's future.

Some South African activist assume he will soon succeed ailing ANC president Oliver Tambo as head of the newly legalised guerrilla movement.

## Control

Others stress the fact that he holds no office in the organisation and they seem anxious to avoid any assumption that he will take control after he visits the ANC's exile headquarters in Lusaka, Zambia, early next week.

"Comrade Mandela made it absolutely clear in his first speech that he will act only as a disciplined member of the ANC," wrote activist Raymond Suttner after Mandela's release from prison.

Voicing a common concern among dissident groups that have battled through the oppression that preceded Mandela's release, he said: "There can be no negotiations behind the backs or over the heads of the people or their organisations."

Mandela has been careful since his release, after 27 years of a life sentence for plotting to overthrow white rule, to avoid any assumption of authority or hint of unilateral action.

"I am a loyal and disciplined member of the African National Congress," he says in response to questions about his position in the movement, which was declared legal on Feb 2, after 30 years of existence underground or in exile.

"No person has the right in our organisation to determine what his role is in the course of the struggle. It is the organisation that will determine what role we should play," he told reporters at a news conference shortly after his release.

## Interviews

In all the scores of radio, television and newspaper interviews he has given in his first 10 days of freedom, Mandela has avoided breaking new ground on ANC policy.

His comments in favour of nationalisation, which caused sharp falls of local financial markets, were later explained as simply a restatement of established ANC policy.

"My views are identical to those of the ANC," he said.

President F.W. de Klerk, who took the decision to free Mandela within six months of taking over from his autocratic predecessor, P.W. Botha, clearly hopes Mandela will lead the ANC into new territory.

"I call upon Mr Mandela and all other interested parties to make their contribution towards a positive climate for negotiations," he said in his announcement of Mandela's release.

The government began trying to define Mandela's role three years ago with controlled leaks to the press about apparently positive meetings he was having with cabinet ministers.

Trying to cut Mandela loose from the ANC military wing he helped to found in 1962, officials said repeatedly that Mandela had committed himself in meetings with ministers and presidents to the



peaceful resolution of South Africa's problems.

Mandela has declined to confirm directly even that promise of peaceful intent.

"I have been acting merely as a facilitator to bring the two major political organisations to the negotiating table," he said at his first Johannesburg rally.

## Speeches

His first speeches were co-written by prominent activists and Mandela rejected media criticism of the shared authorship, saying it was the ideas and not their origin that was important.

"That negotiating programme which De Klerk and sections of imperialism would like to see entails dealing with individual leaders without their constituencies," Suttner said.

"In other words, the object is to remove Nelson Mandela from his community and organisational

accountability and discipline and deal with him as an individual," he added.

Acting ANC President Alfred Nzo declined at a news conference in Lusaka last Friday to give any hint of the role the movement had identified for Mandela.

"Nelson Mandela is a leader of the people of South Africa and one of the important leaders of the ANC. Very soon the national executive will be able to assign him," he said.

Another ANC leader hinted at a possible takeover of the presidency when he said: "If Tambo and Mandela decided on who should take the presidency of the ANC, the rest of the national executive committee would respect that."

Mandela and his wife, Winnie, were granted passports on Monday and are expected to visit Lusaka early next week.

## Letters to the editor

## Live in harmony

SIR: I read the news item in your 'esteemed column' on Feb 18, that the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) is fully backing Pakistan in the current developments in Kashmir. I want to bring to the public certain facts about developments in the subcontinent.

In fact, the country, Pakistan was formed after the majority of the Muslims of the subcontinent joined together during independence struggle. After the partition some Muslims left India for Pakistan. Muslims, who are higher in numbers than the present Pakistani population, are still living in India.

After the partition, what concrete action was taken for the peaceful living of Indian Muslims? They did not take any useful action to improve the relation between the two countries so that the Indian Muslims live peacefully. Instead, hatred was created on both sides and that led to 3 wars. Because of this situation, the Indian Muslims were forced to live in tension only.

Now let us look at the condition of the Muslims who left India at that time. Even though all Muslims are equal, they are called 'Mohajirs' in Pakistan and they allege that they are treated as second class citizens. Moreover, the Muslims who left the Bihar state of India, live in very bad condition in Bangladesh, the then East Pakistan.

By considering the sizeable number of Muslim population in India, when the Organisation of Islamic Conference was formed, majority of Muslim countries came forward to give a seat to India, even though India is not a Muslim majority country. But the then Pakistani leader Z.A. Bhutto opposed this very strongly and hence Indian Muslims are not represented in OIC.

Still, this organisation have member states where Muslims are not majority: example, Burkina Faso. If India was given representation in the OIC, Muslim cause could be advised better to India whenever Muslims in India faced problems.

So I appeal to the OIC and especially, the Arab countries which are sympathetic towards the minority Muslims of India to treat the sensitive issue like Kashmir in a better way. Any decision, they take, should be for the overall interest of all Muslims of India, not to the particular region.

A majority of Indian Muslims are of the opinion that it is better to have a Muslim majority province in India. India has already given special status to Kashmir. That's only Kashmiris can have land in Kashmir. Also subsidised rice is distributed at the cost of national exchequer. Certain privileges are included in the Indian constitution for Kashmiris. So far, the chief ministers of Kashmir are Muslims.

## Support

India has given full support for the Palestinian problem and Arab cause in all international forums and still has good relations with all the Muslim countries. So, other Muslim countries should advise Pakistan to improve good rela-

tions with India for the overall interest of all Indian Muslims.

S. Mohamed,  
Fahadhel.

## Rights deprived

SIR: This is in response to an anonymous letter which appeared in Arab Times on Feb 17, regarding the situation of Indian-Muslims in Kashmir.

I would like to remind all my fellow citizens that the picture depicted regarding the secularism in India in the above-mentioned letter is sheer lies and far from the truth. In India not only is the Muslim community being deprived of its rights but also being massacred by majority forces in places like Bhagalpur and Kashmir. Muslims are compelled to raise arms against partial and biased forces to secure their lives and safeguard their religion which is in jeopardy because of the majority community's hostile attitude. This contention is clear in the light of current situation in Kashmir.

I'd also ask my friend whether this is the maximum religious freedom enjoyed by minority groups in India when Hindus are demanding the demolition of a mosque to build a temple.

Isn't it true that there has not been any development in Kashmir since independence and there has never been any employment scheme for Kashmiri youths. There are only Islamic states where every person gets due justice and equal status.

Before India got independence Gandhi, Nehru and Patel were also declared terrorist by British. They are now remembered as great freedom fighters. So are the Kashmiri Muslims, being considered by the Indian government who are fighting for their rights.

I request my anonymous friend to let people know the truth and you, too, admit it and please do not ever try to mislead them.

Mansoor Durrani,  
Al Jahra.

## Konkani drama

SIR: I was a witness to Konkani Drama at Funaites on 16-2-90. As a critic, I did not like the drama much, the director Menino de Bandar, meaning a man from "band" lacked a lot of qualities to be a director. His maiden inaugural speech itself portrayed his image of the things to follow. He has got no art of speech, does not know to modulate his tone according to the meaning of the words. The stage setting was shabby and introduction of actors in the hall among the audience was a big disaster.

The once popular actor M. Boyer has become old, he has lost his former charm, his songs and actions are full of vulgarity, because of this "Indian Express" recently criticised him. He must in future behave well otherwise he should stop coming back to Kuwait. He has fooled the ignorant audience enough.

Miss Felcy played a good role, and she got

maximum applause from the audience, for her beautiful song of "Ek-don-tin." A bright future awaits her on the Konkani stage. Good luck to her.

The name of the organisers was given as "New Goans Overseas Association." The word Goans denotes that it is an association of all Goans residing in Kuwait, including myself. So, it is my right to know how much loss they suffered by organising this drama and accordingly I shall contribute my mite to offset the loss because as a member of the community it is my duty to do so.

M. Augusto Fernandes,  
Safat.

## Kashmir problem

SIR: I am referring to the recent issues of your newspaper collectively and of Feb 6, in particular.

It seems to me that your newspaper is very anxious to create a war between India and Pakistan even though there is no possibility of one. Headlines in recent issues concerning Kashmir were merely exaggerated and speculated to improve the sale of the paper.

The two English dailies in Kuwait has to hunt for news always and when they do not find an international or national news it creates one about India, Pakistan or Sri Lanka. This is ridiculous. The killing of a Pakistani who crossed the prohibited area and tore an Indian flag was headlined on Feb 6, as if a third world war is on.

I wish all the best for your daily, but please refrain from spreading provocative news. In case of a drop in circulation due to lack of "hot" news, contributions will be made to keep the daily alive.

V.G.P. Dass,  
Safat.

## Helping poor

SIR: I have pondered, the ideas of supporters and opponents of Noor's proposal for expat Pakistanis to help the poor in the country.

Pakistanis may have suspicion about the sincerity of People's Programme, Peoples Club etc. but there is one organisation which is acceptable to both expat and domiciled Pakistanis — Edhi Trust.

Whether it is floods, train disaster, violence etc. Edhi's volunteers are always on hand to provide service to humanity.

If you really want to help the poor, neglected, wounded, orphaned etc; pour in your money to Edhi Trust.

Zafar Faridi,  
Sulaibikhat.

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

## Changing times in VOA

WASHINGTON, (Reuter): As the Berlin Wall crumbles and the Iron Curtain parts, another institution that flourished in cold war days — the Voice of America radio station — may be due for revamping.

"It was just easier and more clear-cut in the old days when you could put anything on the air to the Soviet Union or Eastern Europe and they'd listen because their own stuff was so bad," says William Hill, chief of the European division at VOA, the US government's international radio network.

"Now it's important to be good because people will turn you off and turn something else on," Hill told Reuters in an interview.

## End

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reform policies and the democratic upheavals in Eastern Europe have meant the end of jamming — interfering with the signal — of VOA broadcast in most places and an increase in competition.

Now the service's pop music announcers in Washington can chat on the air with listeners in what used to be called the Soviet bloc, something quite unimaginable 10 years ago.

A series explaining the basics of Western democratic society — such as how to set up a town meeting or a chamber of Commerce — will be broadcast to Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

Jamming of VOA continues only in China, where one VOA correspondent's accreditation was revoked after the military crackdown on pro-democracy protesters in Beijing's Tiananmen Square last June.

But VOA officials say Chinese listeners often can make out some part of the broadcasts, and point out that the service to China was expanded last year.

Started in 1942 to give foreign listeners the US view of events during World War II as well as American music and entertainment, VOA blossomed during the cold war in the 1950s when it was often the only alternative to propaganda broadcasts by East bloc governments.

## Democracy

But as democracy spreads across Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union embraces reforms, VOA must compete with local stations that know what their audiences want and longtime rivals such as the world service of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

At the same time, the Western perception of a reduced Soviet threat has fuelled calls for budget cuts at VOA, which has an estimated 127 million listeners worldwide.

VOA director Richard Carlson announced earlier this month that from April VOA would no longer transmit programmes in Greek, Turkish, Lao, Slovene, Swahili and Uzbek.

"We are doing to ourselves what 30 years of jamming could not do," Carlson said.

His announcement, which means 54 VOA staff members will lose their jobs, brought howls of protest from an unlikely source — the Soviet government newspaper Izvestia.

Calling VOA's staff "inadvertent victims of glasnost," Izvestia commented: "One should express the hope that people living in times of peace need intermediaries of no less than people who had lived during the period of the cold war."

The chairman of the foreign affairs committee of the House of Representatives, Dante Fascell, asked President George Bush to set up a commission to examine the future of government radio, especially VOA.

"In times of change, we should do more, not less," Fascell said in a letter to Bush.

## Lee in trouble

TAIWAN, (Reuter): A bloody day of rioting has caught Taiwan's President between demands for reform by native Taiwanese and the fear and anger of elderly legislators born in China who must soon decide whether he can have another term.

Lee Teng-Hui, Taiwan's first native-born president, risks alienating both the 80 per cent of Taiwanese who were born on the island and the Nationalist Party veterans who still control Parliament and the National Assembly, or electoral college.

"Lee Teng-Hui is in trouble," said Su Tzen-Ping, chief political editor of the independent Morning Post newspaper.

"He is in a dilemma. If he cracks down the people will turn against him. If he appears weak, the National Assembly might not vote for him," he added.

More than 100 people were injured in Tuesday's clashes that pitted demonstrators throwing rocks and bricks against baton-wielding riot police.

The demonstrators demanded the immediate resignation of elderly legislators who have held their seats uncontested for four decades, ever since the Nationalist Party fled communist victory in China.

The furious crowd overturned cars, smashed motorcycles, and set fire to the hedge around the Parliament building before finally dispersing early Wednesday morning.

The old representatives see the people's anger and they are scared," said Lin Chia-Cheng, a political scientist at Soochow University.

"The crowd is out of the control even of the (opposition) Democratic Progressive Party," he added.

But the very representatives who are terrified are the ones who must decide Lee's fate on March 21.

When the 80- and 90-year-old members of the National Assembly vote on whether Lee can have a new six-year term, it may be their last chance to wield power before age and illness take their toll.

Although political analysts say there is little doubt Lee will get the nod, there are signs that some of the "mainland deputies" are worried that the tide of democratisation may be sweeping over Taiwan too fast.

Many of the old guard the first native-born president and long for the days of strongman rule by leaders who came from the Chinese mainland.

"We think the old representatives want to leave a legacy. They may want to trade support for Lee for continued power-sharing by sons and daughters of mainlanders. But that would not be very acceptable to the people," said an analyst working for a foreign government in Taipei.

Lee Teng-Hui will have to work very hard to quietly reassure the frightened delegates. He must reduce their fear and displeasure," said Lu Ya-Li, a National Taiwan University political scientist.



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Gas has big role in Third World

LONDON, Feb 21, (Reuters): Natural gas is shaking off its image as oil's poor relation and looks set to play a major role in the developing world, the head of Britain's main gas utility said today.

Robert Evans, chairman of privatised British Gas Plc, said gas should exploit its nature as a clean, efficient and plentiful fuel to seek out new users, especially in poorer gas-producing countries where consumption is still low.

"Over the next decade... gas is expected to significantly penetrate developing country markets," he said at Britain's Institute of Petroleum, a major oil industry forum.

"Until recently in much of the world gas was a stepchild suffering the indignities of being either flared (burnt off) or capped (blocked in). It was often simply a nuisance or a disappointment. Now it is becoming a prime resource."

Evans said natural gas boosted its share of world energy consumption from only 10 per cent to more than 20 per cent over the last three decades, with particular success in the United States, Europe and Japan.

But the Middle East, Latin America and Africa still accounted for less than a fifth of world gas consumption, despite holding more than half the world's gas reserves.

Higher oil prices could encourage poorer producers to up their domestic gas use, freeing more oil for export, Evans said.

Natural gas resources are known to exist in some 50 developing countries, around 30 of which are oil importers. Many of these nations were committed to boosting their own gas consumption in the coming decade, Evans said.

Using gas to generate electricity could justify the cost of building gas distribution networks in these countries, carrying the fuel to other industries and homes at reasonable cost.

In addition, gas would benefit world-wide from increasing environmental concern among consumers, Evans said.

Gas is the cleanest fossil fuel, producing far less carbon dioxide, sulphur dioxide and other pollutants than oil or coal.

Carbon dioxide is a major contributor to global warming, the so-called "greenhouse effect" while sulphur emissions can lead to acid rain.

## WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Feb 21, (Reuters): Australia's share market rebounded from its lows in response to a statement by federal treasurer Keating that conditions are right for a fall in interest rates. The All Ordinaries index finished down 6.2 points at 1,624.2.

TOKYO: The Nikkei index plunged 1,161.19 points, or 3.15 per cent, to 35,734.33 on fears of world-wide rises in interest rates. Investors scrambled to sell, then headed for the sidelines in thin trading.

HONG KONG: Stocks went into free-fall in the afternoon in reaction to Tokyo's slump. The Hang Seng index closed down 118.63 points, or 3.98 per cent, at 2,862.27.

SINGAPORE: Share prices plunged across the board on panic selling in nervous reaction to the fall in Tokyo. The Straits Times industrial index fell 50.98 points, or 3.19 per cent, to 1,544.42.

BOMBAY: Share prices recovered marginally on short covering on the last day of the two-week current account. The Bombay Stock Exchange index rose 3.10 points to 679.57.

FRANKFURT: West German share prices edged up over the days low by the close as a rebound in bond prices added a measure of stability. The Dax index fell 16.62 points at 1,807.18 after a drop of 43.38 points on Tuesday.

## Japanese, US contractors reach accord on new plane

TOKYO, Feb 21, (AP): The main Japanese contractor said yesterday it has reached agreement in principle with a US aircraft maker on developing Japan's next jet fighter, a project that triggered charges of a US technology giveaway.

Junichi Yamada, an official of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Co., said the formal agreement with General Dynamics Corp. of the United States on developing the FSX is to be signed by early next week.

Then, he said, those two firms, together with Kawasaki Heavy Industries and Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd., both of Japan, will set up a team to design the FSX, an advanced version of the US F-16.

Critics in the US Congress have charged that the project will amount to a giveaway of US technology in aeronautics, where the United States still enjoys a competitive edge. Proponents of the plan contend both sides will gain military and technological benefits.

Defence agency officials have said a total of 165 billion yen (\$1.15 billion) will be needed over eight years to develop the plane, which is expected to go into production in 1997.

Yamada said the team, consisting of 100 engineers, including 10 from General Dynamics, will begin design work at MHI's aerospace systems works in Nagoya, Central Japan, in late March. He declined to discuss further details.

On Nov 29, 1988, the United States and Japan signed a memorandum of understanding on the FSX development. The Japanese defence agency appointed MHI as the prime contractor and General Dynamics, KHI and FHI as subcontractors.

On Jan 12, 1989, MHI and General Dynamics reached a licensing and technical assistance agreement covering the transfer of technical information on the US F-16 to Japan.

Last April, Congress passed legislation that sought, among other things, to prohibit transfer to Japan of critical

US jet engine technology. US President George Bush vetoed the US congressional efforts to impose restrictions on the US-Japan deal for joint development.

Japan originally intended to develop the new fighter on its own. The United States wanted it to buy US planes. The two sides then agreed on codevelopment.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry said it has informed the United States that Japan will transfer its technology

for the plane to the US side under a 1983 agreement on the transfer of military technology.

Themaes was taken after MHI and General Dynamics reached their basic agreement, said a ministry official.

The official declined to discuss the details, but Kyodo News Service reported that Japan would transfer technology for manufacturing the wings with carbon fiber materials, which would reduce the plane's weight.

## Global interest rates increase

### Soaring rates worry economists

PARIS, Feb 21, (Reuters): A sharp rise in bond yields caused by uncertainty over German monetary union could cut economic growth in some countries if it is not reversed soon.

It would be said from a political point of view if events in Eastern Europe were to be seen as leading to a recession — because that is what it might come to, said one Paris-based economist, who declined to be identified.

Many other experts are not as pessimistic and suspect a surge in the cost of capital will subside as investors regain their nerve. But if it does not happen soon, they may shortly have to lower their economic growth forecasts.

Instead of growth in 1990 of three per cent or higher — the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development forecast 2.9 per cent in a December report — the industrial world might expand only at a two or 2.5 per cent rate, one economist said.

"And it could quite easily go below that, depending on the evaluation of the impact in different countries," he added.

Another economist said: "I'd be a bit more worried about the US than West Germany or Japan."

Higher interest rates take their toll on economic activity by making car and home purchases too expensive for some consumers and by putting the cost of new plant and machinery out of the reach of some companies.

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan reassured Congress on Tuesday that the US economy appeared to be over the worst but economists said the business expansion clearly had less of a head of steam in America than in Japan and Germany.

Growth in West Germany was robust even before sudden progress toward monetary and economic union with East Germany raised the prospect of an investment and consumption boom.

This raised fears of higher West German inflation and higher interest rates there with a knock-on effect across Europe.

With rapid money growth in Japan and uncomfortably high inflation rates in the United States adding to investors' worries, interest rates around the world quickly took off.

Tumbling stock prices around the globe prompted a flight to the safety of government bonds today that halted the climb in interest rates, at least for now.

As bond prices rose, their yields fell. But they remain at levels that economists said were punishingly high in some countries when compared with the level of inflation.

In West Germany consumer prices have risen 2.7 per cent in the past year, but investors in 10-year bonds are demanding a return of 8.8 per cent to protect themselves against the risk of accelerating inflation.

In France, inflation is 3.6 per cent but 10-year bonds are yielding 10.25 per cent.

Such high rates of return are usually seen just before recession strikes, one expert said. "We're in a range where there are substantial risks," he said.

Many economies, including those of the United States, Britain, France, Italy, Spain and the Scandinavian countries, were already weakening at the end of last year, he pointed out.

But others said financial deregulation had made many economies more resistant than in the past, when credit controls and interest rate caps could be counted upon to slow spending and investment quickly.

"To have the same impact on economic activity today requires much higher interest rates than in the 1960s or 1970s," one economist said.

Britain and Australia, for instance, have lived with double-digit interest rates for a long time.

A number of economists said the risk premiums now built into long-term bond yields are more than enough to compensate investors for the uncertainty surrounding German monetary union.

Daniel Lebeque, chairman of Banque Nationale de Paris said today he thought the markets had been over-reacted and predicted a correction within days.

## Tokyo shares plunge

### Dollar, gold dive

TOKYO, Feb 21, (Reuters): The steep drop on the Tokyo Stock Market today had many hallmarks of Black Monday — but analysts are betting there were enough differences to avoid a repeat of the 1987 global crash.

As in October 1987, global stock markets have been alarmed this week by fears of higher interest rates world-wide.

Wall Street shares plunged nearly 1-1/2 per cent on Tuesday. Tokyo stocks dropped more than three per cent today and European markets have been weak, largely because investors are worried about a chain of rate rises around the world.

"The similarities are worrying," said Marshall Gittler, bond market analyst at Robert UBS Phillips and Drew (International).

The 1,161.19 point drop on the Tokyo market was the biggest since October 12, 1987, just days after the Black Monday crash that shook stock markets world-wide.

But in percentage terms it was much smaller — just over three per cent compared with nearly 15 per cent in 1987 on the day after Wall Street's Black Monday. It did not even rank in the top 10 biggest declines on the Tokyo Stock Market.

With Sunday's Japanese election over, many analysts believe it is only a matter of time before the central bank raises its discount rate, the interest it charges banks for loans.

Rapid money supply growth, spreading labour shortages and a

weak Japanese yen all point to an increase in the Bank of Japan's 4.25 per cent discount rate, they said.

"It's a foregone conclusion that Japanese rates are going up," said Kenneth Couris, strategist for Deutsche bank group. "It's inevitable given interest rate competition around the world."

Investors also worried about increases in West German interest rates — where talk of the unification of East and West is fanning fears of inflation — and possibly even in the United States.

Gold fell in London to a late bid price of \$418.85 a troy ounce, down from \$419.75 bid late Tuesday.

In Zurich, the metal traded at a bid \$419.50, down from \$419.75 bid late Tuesday.

Silver fell in London to a late bid price of \$5.33 a troy ounce, down two cents from late Tuesday.

US Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan, head of the American central bank, cautioned on Tuesday against complacency about the outlook for US inflation.

"There is confusion not only over credit policy in Japan but also in West Germany and the United States. What are the policies and are the central banks co-ordinating?" said market strategist Craig Chudler at broker Smith New Court. "The situation doesn't look very pretty."

## UK team discusses offset schemes in Riyadh

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia, Feb 21, (AP): A high-level delegation of British industrialists today concluded five days of meetings in Saudi Arabia aimed at developing arms-related industrial schemes that help transfer Western technology to the kingdom.

The Al Yamamah offset programme, expected to pump \$2 billion in diversified investments into Saudi Arabia, was made in connection with massive British arms sales in 1985 and 1988.

The United Kingdom sold almost \$30 billion in Tornados, Hawks, and PC-9 aircraft, plus other military equipment and services to Saudi Arabia in the first stage of the programme.

In exchange, British firms are expected to invest approximately \$2 billion in joint ventures, but potential investors have complained about the lengthy approval process.

Over the past decade, Saudi Arabia has used offset programmes to build up a technological base aimed at lessening economic dependence on oil. The first offset deals were arranged with the United States, the leading arms supplier to the kingdom.

The 10-member British group — which visited Jeddah, the southwest Asian region, and the Gulf's eastern province — was led by Richard Spink, head of the British Ministry of Defence offset office.

Among the businessmen were executives from general electric company, GKN, Pilkington Brothers, STC, northern engineering industries, Booker-Tate and Imperial Chemical Industries.

According to Spink, the group met with 30-50 local businessmen at each location, as well as top level government officials such as Commerce Minister Sulaiman Solaimi and Minister of Industry and Electricity Abdul Aziz Al Zamil.

"I believe there will be a number of projects in the future that will owe their introduction to this visit," Spink told the Associated Press.

Since the official beginning of British offset programme in 1988, eight proposals have been submitted to the Saudi offset office. Four have received initial approval.

They include a missile engineering facility conceived by British Aerospace and Dowty, Rolls Royce participation in the Middle East propulsion centre — an American project. The other two are a project, proposed by Frymafabrics, a manufacturer of polyethylene yarn, and joint proposal from British Aerospace and Kostero, a Swiss manufacturer of acrylic sheeting.

None of the proposals have received the final approval needed before project financing can be arranged with the Saudi Industrial Development Fund (SIDF).

According to informed sources, contractors have complained about the lengthy approval process, which was initially set at six weeks but has actually taken significantly longer.

Spink says that while none of the above projects were given initial approval in six weeks, "we did get a positive and realistic reaction" from the Saudi offset office within that time frame.

## EEC tries to calm Gulf fears

### GRANADA, Spain, Feb 21, (Reuters):

European Economic Community (EEC) officials tried today to calm Gulf Arab countries' fears that an EEC ruling classifying them as high credit risks would hurt their standing on international capital markets.

But an official at the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC), addressing a joint conference of the two trade groups in Granada, called on the community to review the decision.

"We urge you to adopt fairer and more objective standards of country risk assessment," said Abdullah Al Qawetzi, GCC secretary general for economic affairs.

Arab bankers have said the decision, which lumps all Arab countries except Saudi Arabia into the same risk category as other Third World countries, will hurt development plans by substantially increasing borrowing costs.

The ruling, originally made in 1968 in Basel under the auspices of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), was reaffirmed by the EEC last year in a banking directive.

With effect from 1992, the Basel accord would require banks incorporated in an OECD member-state to cover 100 per cent of any long-term loans to an Arab country, firm or financial institution with an increase in capital or provisions.

While Arab banks incorporated in an OECD country will carry the risk rating of their host, their loans back to the Arab world will be considered a 100 per cent risk.

But Geoffrey Fitchew, director-general of financial institutions for the EEC's executive commission, told the conference the directive should not be seen as a definitive guide to a country's credit standing.

"I do not believe there will be any impact on the pricing of individual loans or commitments to lend," Fitchew said.

The fact that Gulf Arab countries and firms are infrequent borrowers on international capital markets should help them maintain present favourable ratings and in the last resort the market would decide, he said.

## People thrive on credit

### Cashless life kills companies

HELSINKI, Finland, Feb 21, (AP): With banks closed for the third week, Finns are learning to live without cash — or with bags of it.

Commercial, savings and deposit banks were shut Feb 1 in a wage dispute, unusual in intensity for this Scandinavian country where quiet negotiation and consensus is the rule. Only the Post Office Bank, which has its own union, remained open.

Bank customers had plenty of warning, and most took precautions. "When I knew the banks were going to shut I withdrew all my money and kept it in a box at home. But with all the cash lying around, I'm actually spending more than I would normally," said Kaisa Harris, 23, an office worker.

Supermarket owner Veikko Still, unable to deposit his daily receipts, said he carries around bags full of money to pay his 70 employees.

"Often we have up to a million marks (\$250,000) in cloth bags. I have trebled my insurance and have increased security arrangements," Still said.

Police announced a sharp rise in burglaries and warned companies not to move large amounts of money. In some cases, police provided armed escorts to companies on payday.

Many shoppers are living on credit and business has barely slowed in downtown Helsinki. Electronics stores, usually the first hit by a slump, report normal post-Christmas sales. Restaurants, bars and movie houses are as full as

over. Hotels and most retail stores take credit and bank cards, even though they cannot collect until the banks reopen. In 1988 there were 4.5 million credit cards, one for every Fin.

Others stores provide interest-free credit of several months with no down payment for expensive consumer goods. But small and medium-sized companies are feeling the squeeze of a cashless world. Salaries, taxes and various tariffs must be paid as usual.

Jussi Jarvela, vice-president of the Central Association of Finnish Entrepreneurs, said 400 workers have been issued redundancy warnings, and some firms have gone bankrupt.

"These figures will be multiplied by a significant amount if the government does not come to our assistance. We are dealing with a very dangerous situation," he said.

Trade officials said imports were dropping by 50 per cent as companies were being forced to pay import duties in cash.

More than 95 per cent of businesses in Finland are as small or medium-sized, employing fewer than 20 people. Only 0.2 per cent employ more than 500 people, Jarvela said.

"We can survive for just a couple of weeks, that's all," said Kai Bjorn, manager of a furniture-installing company that has already told 10 of its 16 workers they may have to be let go.

## Marriott opens Poland's first Western-managed hotel

NEW YORK, Feb 21, (AP): Opening a hotel is never easy, but launching the first Western-managed hotel in Poland taxed the creativity of veteran Marriott Corp. executives.

Reaching a joint-venture agreement for the Warsaw Marriott was just the start, the Washington-based hotel company learned.

Next there was the problem of locating furnishings and equipment for the 41-storey hotel, built in the shell of a dormant Warsaw skyscraper.

"Just about everything was imported," said Marriott spokesman Gordon Lambourne.

Then there was the matter of finding local employees with the proper attitude.

"The sense of hospitality, the sense of private enterprise doesn't exist," said William R. Tielef, president of Marriott's hotels division. "There's not much incentive to be very creative in a job."

Finally came the most difficult task — securing a reliable supply of food and drink for the hotel's 11 restaurants and bars. In a land where shoppers queue for bread and

potatoes, you don't look for prime rib and fine wine at the local store.

Marriott's problems reflect the difficulties inherent in cultivating capitalism in old state-run economies. It's not a matter of adding a little water and fertilizer. You have to start from scratch and plant the seeds.

Marriott took the challenge literally. It signed contracts with Polish farmers, fishers and a brewery to ensure a more-or-less steady stream of local provisions ranging from beer to lettuce.

It even imported the seed used by the farmers so the produce would be up to its standards.

In addition, Marriott built a freezing and canning plant to ensure a year-round supply, along with huge food lockers and storage areas to hold a month's worth of goods, much of it imported.

"We are wheeling and dealing to get a lot of supplies," said Samir Daqqag, the hotel's marketing director.

Despite the complications, the company says it is pleased with how things have turned out at the 520-room inn, which opened in October. Marriott says it is considering outposts in other major East bloc cities, including Budapest, Prague and Moscow.

The company is no stranger to opening hotels in non-Western countries. Marriott had to negotiate similar food procurement contracts when it opened hotels in the Middle East and Barbados, Tielef said.

Still, the Warsaw hotel posed the most difficult problems the company ever faced, he said.

The idea for the hotel — the first US-Polish joint venture since the end of US economic sanctions against Poland in 1987 — began about four years ago when Marriott was contacted by partners in its Vienna hotel, Tielef said.

The partners — Ilbau, an Austrian construction company that built the hotel, and Grozentrone, the Austrian bank that financed it — had joined with Lot, the Polish government-owned airline, in proposing the Warsaw

hotel. They wanted Marriott to run it based on their relationship in Vienna.

Marriott agreed, and formed a joint venture under which it holds about a 25 per cent interest in the ownership and operation of the hotel and the office space that occupies 20 of the building's floors.

Under the venture, Marriott has an operating contract similar to those elsewhere, where it gets an undisclosed percentage of the profits.

The hotel's rooms are rented for foreign currency only, and the Polish government gets a cut.

The restaurants and bars accept zlotys, the Polish currency, used to pay most of the hotel's expenses.

An industry analyst said Marriott should have little trouble turning a profit. With the increasing tide of Western business people seeking deals in the East, hotel rooms will be hard to get, said Daniel R. Lee of Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc.

"As long as you don't have hostilities, a hotel in Eastern Europe should do very well at this point," he said.

As for staffing, Tielef said, "There was not a work force to draw on that had experience in the lodging business." So the criteria changed, "the bigger the smile, the quicker we hired them," he said.

Marriott brought in 25 managers from its hotels elsewhere to school the staff. In addition, it trained 22 Polish workers in the United States and brought in several dozen housekeepers, bartenders and other employees from its Western hotels to work alongside their Polish counterparts, Tielef said.

Daqqag said Western managers operating in Poland need "a very deep well of patience. You can't train just once, it is an ongoing process."

The employees are given two meals daily — partly to reduce food theft — in addition to wages slightly above what they would get elsewhere in Poland. The pay is adjusted monthly for the nation's runaway inflation, Marriott said.



Trainees who attended the training programme.

## GIC training programme

Gulf Investment Corporation has arranged a graduation ceremony for 32 participated trainees from different organisations. This training programme which was in co-operation with Kuwait Investment Authority, Kuwait Finance House, Kuwait Foreign Trading, Contracting and Investment Company and Kuwait and Middle East Financial Investment Company, aimed to develop capabilities and qualification of fresh graduates from Gulf countries to prepare them to hold their new job responsibilities. The duration of this programme was 29 weeks and contained 17 courses which covered skills necessary to perform work, financial analysis and investment skills.

The main objectives were to prepare fresh graduates to hold their new job responsibilities and develop capabilities and qualifications of graduates from Gulf countries. Seventeen courses which cover skills necessary to perform work and financial analysis and investment skills. Lecturers from GIC, KIA, Kuwait University, other international and local financial institutions attended.

## Shares gain

ISTANBUL, Feb 21, (Reuters): Turkish shares made their first positive move in two weeks today but some analysts said they expected further declines because the prices of most primary market shares were overvalued.

The Istanbul Stock Exchange's market index closed 89.6 points higher at 3,708.70 in a see-saw session. After a dull start there was a surge of buying before a late sell-off.

It was the first market gain in 10 trading days that saw daily declines of between 50 and 130 points.

Volume, which has fallen from highs of 80 to 100 billion lira to as low as 35 billion lira on Monday, was around 40 billion lira compared to Tuesday's 36.9 billion lira.

## Far East/Gulf Trade Lines restore rates

In order to restore their rates nearer to the tariff levels to promote trade stability, shipping lines (namely, Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha, Maersk Line, Mitsui Osk Lines, Nippon Liner System, Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Orient Overseas Container Line, P&O Containers, United Arab Shipping Company and Willine) have decided to enhance rates by US\$ 100 to US\$ 200 per TEU on shipments from various Far East areas such as Japan, Hong Kong, Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, West Malaysia and Thailand to Arabian Gulf ports effective from 1st March, 1990. This rate restoration will apply to C and F, CIF and FOB shipments. It is also understood that other lines such as American President Lines, Compagnie Maritime D'Affretement Ltd (CMA), National Shipping Company of Saudi Arabia, Sea Land Serv Inc. and Uniglor, who are also participating in the trade, will be implementing a similar rate enhancement from 1st March 1990.



## No tax hikes

## Canada curbs spending

OTTAWA, Feb. 21, (Reuters): Canada's conservative party government, its popularity at a record low, refrained from raising any taxes in a budget yesterday but squeezed spending to trim the deficit.

"It will not be an easy year," Finance Minister Michael Wilson said in the budget that forecast anemic economic growth in 1990.

The government appeared to heed the call of economists, business leaders and consumer groups to rely on spending cuts rather than trying to raise more from Canadians who have been hit hard in previous budgets and will begin paying a seven per cent value-added tax in 1991.

The government of Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, according to an opinion poll published yesterday, has sunk to the lowest level of any government since the Gallup organization began polling in Canada in 1942.

Only 21 per cent of Canadians backed the conservatives in the poll against 51 per cent for the opposition liberals and 22 per cent for the new democrats.

Many subsidies to business will be eliminated, the state-owned oil giant Petro-Canada will be privatized and payments to the provinces for health care and education will be frozen under the budget.

"This will place the emphasis more clearly on investing in economic development rather than subsidizing the private sector," Wilson told the House of Commons in a budget speech.

In the budget, deficit is to fall to \$2.7 billion in fiscal 1991 from \$25.3 billion this year.

Budget revenues this year will rise 6.1 per cent to \$99 billion. Total expenditures, meanwhile, will rise 3.4 per cent to \$123 billion.

## Astra set to go public

JAKARTA, Feb. 21, (UPI): PT Astra International, Indonesia's second largest business group, has received permission to list 12.4 per cent of its shares on the Jakarta Stock Exchange, worth \$240 million, company officials announced today.

The issue has attracted great interest from foreign investors, as Astra is regarded as one of the best-managed companies in Indonesia.

Astra will float 30 million shares, each priced at 14,850 rupiahs (\$8.21). The price-earnings ratio is pegged at 20.8 per cent.

A majority of the company will continue to be held by co-founder William Soeryadajaya and his children. Astra has been restructured into a holding company with activities in automotive assembly and sales, agribusiness, plywood processing, electronics and financial services.

A large chunk of the capital raised, \$170 million, will be used to retire debt. This will alter the debt-to-equity ratio from the current 1.9 per cent to one to a projected 0.5 per cent to one, company president Director Teddy Rachmat said.

## Currency rates

KUWAIT, Feb. 21, (Kuna): Following are the international currency rates as quoted by local banks and announced by the Central Bank of Kuwait today.

	Buying	Selling
US dollar	0.2972	0.29047
Sterling	0.49355	0.49715
DM	0.17335	0.17195
Sw. Fr.	0.19580	0.19650
F. Fr.	0.05105	0.05125
ILira	0.005335	0.0052350
Ind. Rup.	0.001990	0.002000
Bah. din.	0.76845	0.77070
UAE Dh.	0.07885	0.07910
S. rial	0.07720	0.07750
O. rial	0.07950	0.07980
O. rial	0.75220	0.75460

## Interest Rates

KUWAIT, Feb. 21, (Kuna): Following are the average K.D. interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait today.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	8-1/2	8-3/4
3 months	8-1/2	8-3/4
6 months	8-1/2	8-3/4
1 year	8-1/2	8-3/4

## EXCHANGE RATES

Indian rupee	17.210
Sri Lankan rupee	7.340
Pakistani rupee	13.680
Bangladesh taka	8.930
US dollar	29075
Pound sterling	49800
UAE dirham	97911
Deutsche mark	17425
Japanese yen	002006

## Mosbacher opens information office on E. Europe

## American firms proceed with caution

NEW YORK, Feb. 21, (AP): When Sybron Corp. negotiated a joint venture in Budapest, talks stalled while attorneys for the Hungarian partners grappled to translate "profit".

"It was difficult to put the word profit in the contract in Hungarian so we wrote it in German," said Donald Rackl, chief financial officer for the Milwaukee manufacturer.

Sybron weathered that and many other problems starting its first business in Eastern Europe. The company expects to dance around bigger business potholes when its microscope-slide plant starts production this year.

Even soft-drink maker PepsiCo Inc., after years of operating in the region, has altered the way it normally does business in order to cope with problems alien to the West.

Pepsi plants in Czechoslovakia sometimes run out of bottles due to late shipments. In the Soviet Union, officials snatch beverage delivery trucks to haul wheat, said Richard Norton, PepsiCo vice president for Eastern Europe.

Logistical problems generally can be solved with some planning and per-

susasion. Less easily overcome are structural and economic problems: rapid inflation, huge foreign debt and inconvertible currencies that make it difficult to turn profits into dollars.

Several of the countries have no written laws on foreign ownership and joint ventures. They lack legal systems and courts, leaving Western businesses vulnerable if, for example, suppliers don't deliver and customers don't pay.

Yet for all the problems, Eastern Europe may well represent the greatest commercial and financial opportunity since the rebuilding of Western Europe

after World War II. The region's 136 million consumers crave everything from French fries to shoe polish, telephones to computer disks.

For companies with global aspirations and patience for profits, Eastern Europe is "a pot of gold," said Chicago University business professor Marvin Zonis.

"There are real possibilities out there and they ought to be pursued," Zonis said.

The Commerce Department's own analysts have said firms dealing in

agriculture, health care, telecommunications, energy, tourism, and housing may have the best chance of gaining entry and prospering in East European markets.

There are plenty of reasons for US companies to invest. Cheap labour is one of the biggest. The average hourly manufacturing wage in Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia in 1988 was \$1.35 to \$1.71 said Planecon Inc., a Washington research concern specializing in Eastern Europe. The US minimum wage is \$3.35 and is to rise to \$3.80 in April.

Many companies apparently are doing just that. The Commerce Department and Chamber of Commerce said they are receiving at least 10 times as many inquiries as last year from American companies — on everything from investment laws to opportunities and licensing. Commerce Secretary Robert A. Mosbacher opened an information office on Eastern Europe in January to handle all the calls.

Lawyers, travel agents and public relations firms are leading the way, establishing offices and advertising for Western clients.

## Move to hold down inflation

## Fed may rule out interest rate cuts

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21, (Reuters): The head of the US Central Bank has appeared to rule out any quick cuts in interest rates, arguing that the plodding US economy seems to be showing signs of increasing vitality.

In testimony before a House of Representatives Banking Subcommittee yesterday, Federal Reserve Bank Chairman Alan Greenspan again and again emphasized that the Fed would continue to gear monetary policy towards holding down inflation as long as it didn't torpedo economic growth.

Greenspan's remarks, made in his semi-annual report to Congress, hammered both bond and stock prices and were criticized by the business community.

"The idea that slow economic growth is needed to bring down inflation is based on a theory that has long since been discredited," the US Chamber of Commerce said in a statement, adding: "In fact, higher growth rates are associated with lower rates of inflation."

Some economists, however, appeared to dismiss Greenspan's tough talk about inflation, saying the US economy is so sluggish the Fed will probably be pushed to ease credit again.

"Had he been softer on either the economy or inflation, he would have opened the door to (congressional) criticism for not having eased further," said Ray Stone of the New York firm of Stone and McCarthy Research Associates.

Greenspan said the economy, which grew at an anemic 0.5 per cent annual rate in the last quarter of 1989, may be in the beginnings of a "modest firming." He said the expansion, in its eighth



Fed chairman Alan Greenspan testifies before the Domestic Monetary Policy subcommittee on Tuesday at the Capitol during a hearing on the Federal Reserve's semi-annual Humphrey-Hawkins report to Congress on monetary policy. (Reuters wirephoto)

year, may have passed its weakest point.

Some economists suggested the markets either over-reacted to Greenspan's testimony to Congress, or misinterpreted it.

Despite signs of a pickup in the economy at the start of the year — including an acceleration in non-farm job growth as well as rebounds in housing and car sales — economists said the economy still has underlying weakness.

Through much of last year, the Fed had been gradually nudging interest rates lower in an effort to

keep the economy from tumbling into a recession.

But the Fed has held credit steady since late in 1989.

Financial markets had been anticipating another slight easing by the Fed to prop up the weakening economy, but Greenspan's closely watched testimony dispelled hopes that would happen soon.

Setting up a potential clash with President George Bush's administration, Greenspan said the Central Bank was looking for the economy to grow at a rate far below the one on which the

administration based its 1991 budget.

Wall Street, which has been battered this year by rising foreign interest rates, took Greenspan's inflation warnings and growth forecast as further evidence that the Central Bank is intent on pursuing a tight money policy to battle inflation and thus will not move any time soon to lower interest rates.

At mid-afternoon, interest rates on long-term US government bonds had jumped sharply while the prices, which move in the opposite direction, fell as much as \$18 per \$1,000 in face value. The Dow Jones industrial average of 30 stocks closed down 38.74 points to 2,596.85.

"We're in an area where (inflation) is in danger of accelerating," Greenspan said in his appearance before a House Banking Subcommittee.

He called the performance of inflation so far this year "horrendous" although said the January's jump in prices was attributable in large part to temporary factors stemming from severe cold in December.



## New premises

Korean Air moved their office to new premises recently at Al Dawliah Commercial Complex. The opening ceremony was attended by the Korean Ambassador Byong Yong Soh, regional manager of Korean Air Yung Koo Lee, Dia Alkazemi, executive vice president of Alkazemi Travel Agencies Co. (GSA for Korean Air), management of Alkazemi Travel Agencies Co. WLL, prominent personalities from Korean companies in Kuwait and general managers of some local travel agencies.

## US consumer prices leap

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21, (UPI): Food and energy costs pushed consumer prices up 1.1 per cent in January, the biggest increase in nearly eight years, the Labour Department said today.

Officials blamed cold weather for the hike in food prices. The huge increase, the biggest since June 1982, compares to surges of 0.4 per cent in consumer prices in December and 0.3 per cent in November, the department said in its monthly report.

Excluding the volatile food and energy costs, consumer prices were up 0.6 per cent in January.

"Increases in food and energy prices accounted for over 60 per cent of the January advance," the Department's Bureau of Labour Statistics said.

"In particular, record monthly increases were recorded in the indexes for fuel oil and fruits — up 26.3 per cent and 10.2 per cent, respectively — and gasoline prices rose 7.7 per cent," the bureau said.

The statistics are seasonally adjusted to account for the weather and other important factors.

"The food and beverage index, reflecting the effects of the adverse weather in December, rose 1.8 per cent in January, following a 0.4 per cent increase in December," the bureau said. "Grocery store foods advanced 2.9 per cent, their largest increase since a 7.1 per cent rise in 1973."

"Nearly two-thirds of the January increase was due to a 10.2 per cent jump in the index for fruits and vegetables," it said.

## Italy shows little progress

## Battle to trim budget deficit

MILAN, Feb. 21, (Reuters): Despite a strong economy, Italy is fighting an uphill battle to trim its massive budget deficit.

Treasury Minister Guido Carli said at a conference in Rome recently that the 1990 deficit would be higher than the government's target of 133 trillion lire (\$107 billion) and he urged swift action to correct it.

He also expressed frustration with efforts to reign in public spending.

"I'm profoundly convinced of the serious flaws in the action that I've taken up to now. On the other hand, the solutions to the problems of public financing cannot be entrusted to only one person," he said.

The government is now debating a series of fiscal moves, but they are primarily aimed at harmonising tax policy with its European Economic Community partners rather than reducing the deficit.

Last year's deficit swelled to around 11 per cent of gross domestic product (gdp), one of the highest ratios in Europe.

"The Italian economy is strong... the only risky area is public finance," a senior government economist told

Reuters, describing the world's fifth or sixth largest economic power.

Unlike other European countries, Italy has been unable to reduce the debt-to-gdp ratio. As a result, the government keeps absorbing huge amounts of private savings — by issuing treasury paper — to finance the deficit.

Financial analysts say the government's aim to slash the budget shortfall in the next two years is possible.

"The problem is that you cannot touch income taxes because there are (administrative) elections in May, and you cannot touch indirect taxes because it would be inflationary," said Stefano Micossi, the chief economist at Confindustria, the National Association of Industry Employers.

The five-party government headed by Christian Democrat Giulio Andreotti plans to introduce a capital gains tax on house trading profits soon, and will lower withholding tax on bank deposits from 30 to 20 per cent.

The withholding tax cut is likely to reduce annual revenue by about three trillion lire (\$2.4 billion), said a government economist, who asked not to be identified.



## Launching of "PLAX" in Kuwait

Intermarkets, in co-operation with Youssef Ibrahim Al Ghanim Company and the marketing project company being responsible for distributing PLAX in the market, invited 400 people, mainly co-operative and supermarket managers, pharmacies and heads of advertisement departments in newspapers and magazines for a dinner in Al Afrah ballroom in the Holiday Inn on 19/2/1990. They were shown a wide range educational programme about tooth and mouth care, as a part of the advertisement campaign. Amr Rajab, the marketing manager in the marketing project company, welcomed the attendants, thanked them for their coming, stressing the fact that such a meeting is so important for marketing PLAX. Then Ashraf Younis of Intermarkets made a brief explanation of the producing company, problems of plaque and the new product PLAX. Younis explained the role of advertisement in promoting the product and the advertisement campaign in which \$4m were assigned to cover the process of marketing it locally and in the Middle East markets. He explained the objectives of the campaign and showed the attendants the campaign during the nineties, a point that won the appreciation and admiration of the audience.

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## Indian Cinema

## Winds of change may blow across silver screen

## New government seeks healthy growth

By Firoze Rangoonwalla

WITH the new National Front government led by V.P. Singh settling down for a long term, the mass media in India are also arched for a shoot in new directions towards fresh goals. Films, in this respect, raise the biggest hopes, as the government is also taking an unusually keen interest in them.

Despite TV, video and audio, cinema still remains the biggest entertainment industry, which earns the highest revenue and pays the most taxes. Its output figures in 1989 are astounding. A total of 781 Indian feature films were certified during the year. Of these, the maximum number of 176 was made by Hindi cinema based in Bombay, followed by Telugu (152), Tamil (148), Malayalam (96), Kannada (75), thus making South's contribution of 471 films more than half of the total production.

Among the smaller groups, there were Bengali (50), Marathi (30), Oriya (13), Bhojpuri (10), Gujarati (9), Rajasthani (7), Assamese (4), Punjabi (2), Haryanvi (3), Nepali (1). Three films were made in

English and one each in Sambalpuri, Karbi and Tulu dialects. Madras also retained its first position as a production centre with the maximum of 243 films made there. Next came Bombay with 184, Hyderabad with 101, Trivandrum with 89, Bangalore with 85 and Calcutta with 79, all in different languages. For example, 124 Hindi films were made in Bombay, 21 in Madras and the rest in the other four centres. Colour dominated the total annual product, with only seven films in black and white.

The output was no doubt optimum. But such a huge quantity of nearly 800 films automatically cuts down on quality and so most films followed the routine formula track. Regional films too adopted the Hindi model: songs, dances, fights, comedy and melodrama on the old stage pattern. The direction was largely uncinematic and the acting remained theatrical in many films. The stars stuck to a familiar style of mannerisms and gimmicks, without any outstanding histrionics. The technical aspects, however, made big advances, inspired by foreign features and TV films.

The new government started off by lending full support to the Calcutta international festival, planned and selected by the former Rajiv Gandhi regime and its loyal officers. West Bengal itself is no longer an opposition state as its Communist-Marxist party is a part of the coalition government at the centre. So Chief Minister Jyoti Basu added the full strength of the state government in Calcutta. From Delhi came the new Information and Broadcasting Minister P. Upendra who has started going deep into the affairs of the film industry. So too the secretary in the ministry Suresh Mathur and the joint secretary S. Lakshmi Narayanan, who has also been appointed as the managing director of National Film Development Corporation.

Removal of deadwood and self-seekers from NFDC is the first welcomed step taken by the new ministry. Some of the assurances given by P. Upendra in his recent speeches also raise hopes that films will tread a new path and get the much-needed support from the authorities, for what is called "a healthy growth." He expected film festivals to

provide greater momentum and a new direction to Indian cinema. He also said that prompt action will be taken on the reports of the high-power committees, on the problems of film industry.

One advantage is that the centre-state conflicts in various centres will not obstruct the progress, as it happened during the previous regime. Now most of the state governments are also parties supporting the centre, and the Congress-I is in a minority. So a uniform policy is likely to be applied quickly, as for example in the case of tax exemption for good films all over India. Film censorship will also become more consistent. And the ministry has offered "a single window service" to the industry.

There is a fear that the new regime may show a greater kinship with commercial cinema and so the movie tycoons will get all the benefits and even dominate television. Many constituents and supporters of the government come from regional and Hindi cinema of the popular type, like N.T. Rama Rao. Here again, a heartening sign is the support given to Indian Panorama, consisting of the better artis-

tic kind of films. P. Upendra called it as the latest cultural-cum-technological product. He said that along with recognising the cinema of mass entertainment, the cinema of social purpose, should also be rewarded. (A new art theatre was inaugurated by him in Bombay.)

This will become apparent soon enough in the National Awards to be judged next month. The much-neglected documentaries and short films will also have their day, with an international competitive festival in the first week of March, with cash awards as high as two and a half lakh rupees. The various film-based organisations are being overhauled, as they had become corrupt and complacent under the old rule. Lakshmi Narayanan is all set to clean up the terrible mess in NFDC. The Film Institute, Archive, Children's Film Society, Film Division, Festival Directorate and the TV centre are all being examined and new personnel appointed.

It is now or never for Indian cinema. But for that, it will have to first set its own house in order, with self-regulation and discipline freedom.



P. Upendra: assurances



Aamir Khan with Madhuri Dixit in 'Deewana Mujhsa Nahin.'

## Mini Meet: Aamir Khan

## 'I listen... at the cost of fools'

With Salman Khan's success in the hit *Maine Pyar Kiya*, the so called golden kid Aamir Khan has taken a further back-seat. Embarrassed and angry, he is further antagonising fans and industry people. How far is this true? In an informal chat, the young star defends himself.

**Q.** Rumours say that you have become obstinate, you don't listen to anyone's views or advice. Even your well-wishers seem to be put off.

**A.** It's all media-made bluff. In fact I silently listen to everyone, even at the cost of suffering fools. Of course, finally I do what I think is right.

**Q.** You are accused of giving preference to films with Madhuri Dixit, because she is a winning mare. But why do it at the cost of other films, of other producers?

**A.** Wrong again. The films I am doing with Madhuri, like *Dil* are really interesting. So too my father's *Tum Mere Ho*, though it is with Juhi, with whom I recently flopped. But all my dates are equally divided among different producers, whether the heroine is Farha or Juhi or even a newcomer.

**Q.** So the failure of *Love Love Love* did affect you?

**A.** It had an average run. But today people only want big hits from new talents like us.

**Q.** Do you think romantic films are again the "in" thing?

**A.** Oh sure. See *Maine Pyar Kiya* and *Chandni*. But love stories should not have too much violence. Then they go all wrong.

**Q.** Has the coming of Salman Khan affected your market and your future?

**A.** The market is quite big to take everyone. As for the future, every new hero or heroine has to wait for the second and third film. Then the real results become known. It happened with so many young heroes. The survivors are those with talent and grit.

**Q.** What about the complaints of producers that you ditched them for dates or gave up films?

**A.** I was doing one young-love film. The producer wanted forty days at a stretch. I even managed that. But then he cancelled them at the last moment and I had to sit idle. You people should also hear star complaints against producers.

**Q.** You are not being accepted as a lover boy. And still most of your coming films are of the romantic type.

**A.** Acceptance can't be known from one film. From my forthcoming movies *Dil*, *Afsana Pyar Ka* and a couple of others are love stories. But there are also other different ones like *Aatank Hi Aatank*, *Isi Ka Naam Zindagi* etc. So it's a good blend. Let's see which are liked more by the public.

## Star slips

**Mahesh Bhatt:** There are thousands of mad people on the streets. So why show so much concern for Parveen Babi?

**Amitabh Bachchan:** Shatrughan Sinha has never fought an election. He has never been an MP. He has not been to Allahabad, from where I won. How does he know what the problems are?

**Jaya Bachchan:** Javed Akhtar was invited as juror for the Children's Film Festival. He ditched us at the last moment saying wife Shabana was sick. If it was some other attractive festival, he would have left Shabana behind and run there.

**Sadashiv Amraperkar:** In 'Indrajit' I play a cop who becomes a commissioner. He is very fond of biscuits. He changes the brand according to his mood. When he is angry, he eats salt biscuits, when happy he takes sweet ones and so on. Even a hero like Amitabh does not get these types of gimmicks to do.

**Rohini Hattangadi:** Even if you have done bad work in a film and you know it, you must praise yourself. Otherwise you can't survive in the industry.



Rohini: 'bad work'



Amitabh: 'how does he know?'

## On the record

## 'Jump the blues away....'

**Blues, Rock**  
**ALBERT COLLINS, Etta James and Joe Walsh.**  
"Jump the Blues Away" (Verve, \$41.287-2)  
The blues are a state of mind, whether you're talking about the down and out oldsmobiles or the soulful, musical forms born in Chicago, New Orleans and the Mississippi Delta. *Jump the Blues Away*, a live recording by Albert Collins, Etta James and Joe Walsh, is a look into the blues state of mind.

The crystal-clear recording's nine cuts share a common idea that no matter how bad things are, they could be worse. Discovering the concept behind *Jump the Blues Away* requires paying attention to how the concert evolves.

It opens with Walsh performing his own *Walk-away*, which is not the kind of tune to quell anyone's need for down and dirty blues. But the guitarist, best known from his days with James gang and the Eagles, then moves on to a hoppin' version of *Going Down*, in which his vocals and Micky Raphael's harmonica are just raunchy enough to make you believe that this is the blues.

Walsh then gives way to Collins, who performs his own *The Moon is Full*, and you get a feel for precision blues — deliberate, but clearly made from the moment. Walsh returns to join Collins and James, who makes her first appearance, on a smokin' version of B.B. King's *Sweet Little Angel*.

The three move onto another king tune, *Rock Me Baby*, and James and Walsh trade off wretched but uplifting vocals while the backing musicians open up a full, almost big band sound. Collins is the only headliner on the next cut, his own *If Trouble was Money*. "Although the tempo is slow, it brings the show to a peak."

Walsh and James regain momentum with a Cotton Club sound on *Baby, What You Want me to do*, with James' vocals mimicking a slide trombone's wah, wah, which brings the audience to a roar. James departs after *The Blues Don't Care*, but not before Walsh offers some ripping slide guitar and James captures the theme of the project, belting over and over again, *The Blues Don't Care it Don't Care About you*.

Now alone, Walsh ends the show with his own *The Rocky Mountain way*. In sharp contrast to his opening *Walk-away*, he lets you know that *The Rocky Mountain way* is true blues.

This session, available in three audio and two video formats (album, cassette, cd, laserdisc or videotape) is an hour of being in the right state of mind.

**Jazz**  
**Gary Burton Reunion (GRP, GRD-9598)**  
This reunion with 1970s bandmate Pat Metheny is no mere nostalgia session. It will stand the test of time as one of Gary Burton's finest recordings.

There is an unbridled joy from start to finish, with strong solos by both the vibes master and the guitarist, who are ably backed by Mitchell Forman on keyboards, Will Lee on electric bass and drummer Peter Erskine on drums.

Another treat is the writing by Polo Orti, a young pianist from the Canary Islands, a Burton discovery who penned *Autumn*, *Tiempos Felices* and *The Chief*. Metheny's tip of the hat to Burton, is freshened from the old days.

If you like either Burton or metheny, you'll love this one. It's powerful stuff.

**Country 'n' Western**  
**Sweethearts of the Rodeo, Buffalo Zone (Columbia, 45373)**

It's been a year and a half since the Sweethearts' last album and the wait was worth it.

Listening to this effort overall, sisters Janis Gill and Kristine Arnold, have turned the pace up a notch.

*Up Hill all the way* grooves their talents into a real listener and sets the mood for the rest of the album. *This Heart*, the first single, was written by Gill. It is another fine piece of work by the Sweethearts.

A song in the vein of their past hits is *Hard Road to go* where they show off their distinctive harmony. *Don't Wake me up* is a clever song co-written by award-winning country songwriter Don Schlitz.

This is a fine mix of songs performed well by the Sweethearts.

## Up-market walking in Britain

A company running 'luxury' walking tours around scenic areas of Britain hires 'sherpas' to deliver picnics on remote routes. And, after a day's trek on muddy footpaths, walkers often return to the hospitality of some of the country's best four-star hotels. Lord Winston's Walking Tours has been running these up-market guided walks for 10 years, and know the routes which show the best of each area.

There is no baggage to carry: this disappears after breakfast to reappear in the next night's hotel or farmhouse; lunches are taken at carefully selected village pubs, or there are those gourmet picnics to be enjoyed al fresco. The organisers even arrange

special displays en route by local morris dancers, village choirs, brass bands and so on.

Among the walks planned for 1990 are 10 days "In Search of Lorna Doone" in Exmoor National Park (£995); "This Sceptered Isle", 16 days from the Lake District to York (£1150); and "A Walk in Poldark Country", 13 days in the spectacular coastal scenery of Cornwall (£1050). Prices are fully inclusive and per person.

Press contact: Ken or Margaret Ward; Lord Winston's Walking Tours, The Manor; Moreton Pinkney, Daventry, NN11 6SJ. Tel: (029) 576 342.

FAMILY DOCTOR  
By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

## LIPOSUCTION NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR WEIGHT CONTROL

**QUESTION:** Faced with a lifetime of dieting just to keep a barely passable figure, I'm now thinking about surgery as a way to get the shape I want. My friends tell me that liposuction is the way to go, but I need more information before I can gather enough courage to go to a doctor's office. What can you tell me?

**Answer:** It is as important to get your priorities straight as it is to gather more information about this procedure. Most experts agree that liposuction is no replacement for a diet, and is not the way out of a weight reduction programme.

It is a good way to rid yourself of an unwanted or unsightly lump or two, but it won't help you shed pounds. Infact surgeons usually don't remove more than five or six pounds in one operation, and that won't change your dress size. It's clear that the procedure is not for everyone, but may be the answer when there are fat deposits about the thighs, abdomen or hips that do not fit in with an otherwise slim or trim figure. It also can be used for problems on the arms, knees, inner thighs, neck and face.

The operation may be performed under local anaesthesia, as a hospital outpatient, or in a doctor's office. A small cannula (a thin metal tube) attached to a vacuum-producing machine, is passed through small incisions in the skin, and suction draws away the unwanted fat. A tight dressing is applied to the area after the surgery, and there will be a period of swelling and bruising for as long as three or four weeks, but then these conditions disappear. Antibiotics are prescribed to prevent infections.

Choose your surgeon carefully, seeking a qualified specialist with appropriate credentials and board certification. It pays to check around, and your own family physician may be a fine source for a recommendation. It isn't cheap, either, with the cost of procedures running from \$1,000 to \$3,000. Hospital costs are extra, and few insurance companies pay for this surgery, considered an elective procedure.

You may want to think a second time about your diet and exercise programme!

**Question:** Please will you tell us about Leigh's disease? All the information we have obtained from our pediatrician and metabolic doctor is very sketchy. The patient is 4 years old. Thanks for any information.

**Answer:** Little wonder your doctors have had little to tell you, for information about this rare disease is both scarce and not very promising. Also called "subacute necrotizing encephalopathy," it was first described by Dr D. Leigh in 1951 and is named for him. It affects infants of both sexes equally, and its cause is unknown, although it probably is inherited in some fashion, under the influence of several genes.

Various portions of the brain gradually die, seemingly without reason, and with their destruction, body and muscle functions are also gradually lost, until a terminal stupor or coma occurs. The evaluation depends upon the physical examination, for there are no specific tests that prove the diagnosis, except that computerized axial tomography (CT scan) can show changes occurring in the shape of the brain.

No known treatment exists, except for supportive care, and death occurs within a few years. A few children have lived to their mid-teens, but they, too, fail to develop normally or thrive.

Dr Allan Bruckheim welcomes questions from readers. Although he cannot respond to each one individually, he will answer those of general interest in his column. Write to Dr. Bruckheim in care of this newspaper, P.O. Box 119, Orlando, Fla., 32802-0119.



Mithun with newcomer Varsha in a forthcoming film.



Manoj Kumar: patriotic

## Common secret

The secret behind Anil Kapoor and Madhuri Dixit starring together in so many films is not the success but a secretary. They share a common one, who is known as the live-wire Rikoo in the industry. He tells Anil's producers to sign Madhuri and Madhuri's producers to sign Anil. In return he promises smooth combined dates. Film-makers find it beneficial. No doubt the secretary also benefits. And his wife gets assignments for writing scripts.

## Magazine craze

The latest trend — and craze — is to have magazines named after stars. It started in the South. *Ragini*, a monthly, is devoted to Rajinikanth and *Hello Kamal* to Kamal Hassan. At least that way, these two heroes have scored over the Bombay stars. But it has given ideas to the Hindi heroes. Perhaps we may soon have mags like "Govinda Ala Re," "Gharana Dharam," "Chunky's Playboy," "Sery Sanyas" all being privately financed by the stars, of course.

## Leading role

At a meeting held by leading stars to protest against the rule of one shift per day, Vinod Khanna did not arrive though he was in town. Mithun, posing as a leader, phoned his house. On being told that "Vinod saheb" is fast asleep, Mithun lost his temper and repeated his name angrily several times. Then Vinod came on the line and made the excuse that he was busy with some urgent work. This was duly conveyed to the meeting. Mithun's new role of industry leader does not go with his lady-killer image.

## That's patriotism

Despite the patriotic flops, Mr Bharat that is Manoj Kumar will not give up his 'screen-love' for the country and the possible chance of cashing in on it. So his next film is being called *Love for India*. It is also declared that this "love" will be finished in three months. Perhaps, Manoj wants everyone to know that the long history of *Clerk* and *Sanrosh* will not be repeated.



# Hollywood in the '90s: facing harsh realities in the new decade

By Ivor Davis

THE '80s have come to an end. The self-indulgent, greedy time of yuppies and BMWs, insider trading and white-collar crime will hopefully be over. Perhaps we will say goodbye to the era of people tearing down \$10 million homes to build \$50 million palaces while others live outside under bridges and in beaten-up automobiles.

It's the end of the Reagan era: the feeling of invincibility that based its public-relations policy on an I'm-OK-and-so-is-America image. The '90s may herald in — dare we say — the first thin rays of reality to pierce the dreamlike fog of this 10-year

sleep. Things are definitely changing and one look at the rash of new movie offerings proves it.

But this year, luckily, Hollywood has missed the mark. Their year-end holiday fare included five — yes, five — pictures that dealt directly or indirectly with the catastrophic incident that occurred four decades ago: the Holocaust. There's Paul Mazursky's *Enemies, A Love Story* with Ron Silver, Anjelica Huston, Lena Olin and Margaret Sophie Stein; Costa-Gavras' *Music Box* with Jessica Lange, Armin Mueller-Stahl and Frederic Forrest; Robert Young's *Triumph of the Spirit* with Willem Dafoe, Edward James Olmos and Robert Loggia; *The Rose Garden* with Liv

Ullmann and Maximilian Schell; and *Lode Ghetto* a powerful documentary about an area in Poland where Jews were caged like animals by the Nazis.

Last year's include two graphic war pictures. One is Oliver Stone's gruesomely heart-breaking and war picture *Born on the Fourth of July*. It stars Tom Cruise in a story based on the life of Vietnam War veteran Ron Kovic. It is not only difficult to watch, but lays bare, once and for all, the real cost of war in a way no American film ever has. The second is *Glory*, a film about a black battalion fighting for the Union in the Civil War at the time President Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves. It is a story of racism and courage, of man's inhumanity to man

and of wars that solve little and harm many. Instead of James Stewart and Donna Reed's warm all-American marriage of *It's a Wonderful Life*, we have two merciless dissections of that sacred institution: Danny DeVito's *The War of the Roses* with Michael Douglas and Kathleen Turner, and Susan Seidelman's *She-Devil* with Meryl Streep, Roseanne Barr and Ed Begley Jr. These films depict marriage as all-out trench warfare, complete with weaponry, homicidal mania and casualties galore.

Then there's Woody Allen's latest *Crimes and Misdemeanors* with Martin Landau, Mia Farrow, Anjelica Huston, Alan Alda and Sam Waterston. It's not the

warm, life-affirming romp *Hannah and Her Sisters* was, but rather a bleak moral tale in which evil goes unpunished, the heroine throws over the serious, sincere suitor to marry the vain egoist and the only truly good characters commit suicide and go blind respectively. This is holiday fare?

Even the gentle *Driving Miss Daisy* with Jessica Tandy, Morgan Freeman and Dan Aykroyd poses hard questions about racism in America.

If this weren't enough we got *Roger & Me*, a dark-humoured documentary rapidly proving itself to be this year's "Jeeper." Michael Moore's film is a particularly poignant piece of political satire about the residents of the town of Flint,

Mich. The city, decimated by a series of ruthless factory closures during the '80s by General Motors, to whom several generations of Flint's men and women have given their all, disintegrates before our eyes.

The only thing about this devilishly funny tale of woe is that it is positively Dickensian in its depiction of the humiliation to which the American working-class is subjected by their capitalist overlords. One critic described it as Karl Marx meets the Marx brothers. One thing is sure, it debunks forever the American dream and the notion of a classless society.

*Roger & Me* has been shown at the New York, Toronto, Vancouver and Telluride (Colorado) film festivals where it was

highly praised. Now it is bringing its tidings across America just in time for the '90s. Moore — writer, director and producer of *Roger & Me* — says it would behoove us all to pay attention, "because what has happened in Flint is coming to your hometown."

Of course there are a few lighter offerings playing at your local movie houses: *Back to the Future Part II*, the \$50-million cop saga *Tango & Cash* with Sylvester Stallone and Kurt Russell and *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation* with Chevy Chase. There are also a few things for the kiddies: *The Wizard* (strangely out of date now that the video-game craze is past), *The Little Mermaid*, a gem of a film and *Prancer*.

## European stereotypes: 1992

### Preparing the world to meet 'Euro-gentry'

BRUSSELS, (UPI): Terms like "Eurobond" and "Eurodollar" are by now well entrenched in financial markets, but is the world really ready for the "Euro-dandy" or "Euro-gentry"?

Then there are the "Euro-vigilantes" and "Euro-romantics," and even the "Euro-squadra," who include "fairly young couples living in small towns" and "tolerant 'jocks' seeking an agreeable secured life of leisure."

The severe stereotyping springs from an ambitious survey, called "Euro-styles," which pegs Europeans into 16 lifestyles to help companies cash in on the European Economic Community's 1992 programme, which will create a single market of 323 million people.

The idea, for the bevy of marketing types in bustling Brussels, is to take a hit product from Milan or Madrid to the top of the charts in Manchester and Munich.

Some of the lifestyles seem almost ridiculous, like the "Euro-olvidados," who include "retired Catholic housewives threatened by the growing complexity of the outside world and over-reacting in their defence of family, order and security."

Others seem terribly familiar, like the "Euro-business" types, "ambitious young wolves, who want to become wealthy leaders in the competitive post-industrial society of leisure." Sounds a lot like yuppies in wolves' clothing.

Still, the survey dreamed up by a professor of psycho-sociology at the Sorbonne in Paris is winning converts who see cartoons of cash in the cryptic documents of the 1992 programme's "Eurocrats."

"The idea is to reach your target group across the borders," said Dominique Rajewski, an executive with the Brussels marketing firm FK Belgium.

"The 16 types are universal to Europe, but the survey shows how their proportion differs from country to country, which helps advertisers decide where to put their resources," she said.

Other types include "Euro-rockies," young people with diplomas who are "not yet ready to do anything with them," the "Euro-protesters" and political party, and the "Euro-prudents," a "pessimistic rural population" who merely seek "modest and passive daily survival."

There are four times as many "Greens" in Germany and Scandinavia than in Greece or Portugal, the survey found.

"Euro-vigilantes" ("urban blue collars devoting their money to savings and in compensation obsessed by a ferocious defence of moral principles and of identity through ostracism") are found three times more often in Holland than in Norway.

The survey, using a 150-page questionnaire, initially asked 4,000 people some 3,500 lifestyle and values questions to get a picture of Europe as a whole. A second stage queried 20,000 people to break down the lifestyles according to country and even region.

"We identified a new kind of marketing area that goes beyond the borders," said Jean de Nicolay, who directs the survey for the Paris-based CCA International, part of Havas-Burocom, a French group comprising about 1,500 companies.

"One of those areas includes the south of Belgium, east of France, and the Western part of Germany," he said. "The idea is to draw up a very precise portrait: who they are, what they already have, what they want, do they want to deal with a very big European company or a smaller local company."

The 16 types are placed on a chessboard-like grid, based on attachment to values vs values, and settlement vs movement. The image-conscious "Euro-dandy" and the ultra-conservative "Euro-strict" find themselves in opposite corners.

Advertising themes and even colours match the areas of the chessboard pastels for the "Euro-prudent," black-and-white photographs for the "Euro-scout" (young populists) and earth tones for the "Euro-business."

"The 'Euro-moralist' (quiet, religious, average bourgeois consumers) and 'Euro-gentry' (deeply rooted in traditions) types are people who like the beauty of things, who visit cathedrals when they go on vacation, so advertising aimed at them has to reflect that," said Rajewski.

Bernard Cathelat, the Paris professor who launched the survey, says future revisions will expand the data base to look at "food lifestyles, for example."

"Perhaps beer lifestyles won't be far behind. According to survey literature, 'The development of Western societies has led to a situation in which the person, the consumer, the voter, the union member, the beer drinker, does not exist.'"



### Twinkle Toes' woes...

They used to call puppy Twinkle Toes just-sized. But not any more.

For the amazing, pocket-sized eight-week-old Pekinese is shrinking by the day.

And now she slips easily into a Babycham glass.

Twinkle Toes' owner Betty Inwood says that, any day now, her dwindling pet will fit into an eggcup.

The puppy is one of a miniature breed. But even by dog fanciers' standards, she is amazingly tiny.

Her two brothers are three times her size already. Twinkle Toes, at 2 1/2 inches tall, weighs in at a featherweight 12oz. Brothers Snowboots and Snowstorm are already a sturdy 3lb, the normal weight of a miniature Pekinese.

Betty, who has bred Pekinese for 30 years, is baffled by her ever-diminishing pet. She said: "At first I thought my eyes were deceiving me. But as her coat gets bigger, she seems to shrink."

"Soon her coat will be too big for her. She can easily sit in Baby glass, but if you try her in anything else, she disappears. Her feet and legs are as small as my fingernail."

Betty, of Chesterfield, Derbyshire, has tried giving Twinkle Toes giant meals. The puppy jumps into the bowl, vanishes among the food, and happily munches it clean.

But still she keeps on shrinking. Betty, a dog expert, says even a vet can't help.

She added: "Because Twinkle Toes is so small I have to carry her around with me all the time. If I left her alone with her brothers, they would probably squash her."

"She sleeps in a tiny cabinet because her legs are not long enough to climb into a dog basket, and I can't let her out in case a cat gets hold of her."

Meanwhile, Twinkle Toes gets happily tinner. Betty said: "I just hope she doesn't disappear altogether. She's worth £250."

Tiny Twinkle Toes sits in a Babycham glass.



The Pekinese dog stands smaller than a bottle of Babycham. She is just two and a half inches high.



Betty Inwood puts her dog Twinkle Toes on the scales; she weighs just 12 oz.

### Asia — hottest property for amusement parks

NEW YORK, (UPI): A theme park boom, started with the opening of Tokyo Disneyland in 1983 and now spread to all reaches of Asia, has created a wealth of opportunities for US architects versed in fantasy land creations.

Herb Ramsaier, the former chief architect for a subsidiary of Walt Disney Productions, has worked on many new developments in the Far East and believes the pickings have far from peaked.

"Not only in Japan but in Korea, Taiwan and Singapore right now, there are great opportunities for creating theme parks," the architect, who first won acclaim in Japan for his work on Tokyo Disneyland, said in a telephone interview from his office in Tampa, Florida.

Ramsaier also has worked on Nashville's Opryland, Orlando, Florida's Circus World, Brazil's South American theme park and Disney's two parks in the United States.

Asia, however, is undoubtedly the hottest market in the world right now for amusement parks, he said.

Currently, 17 such parks are open and nearly 60 more are in various stages of planning and construction.

To further carve out a niche in Asia, especially in Japan, Ramsaier and his Planning Resource Group Inc. this month made a swing through Tokyo and other major cities to take part in a trade fair.

Ramsaier formed PRG last summer to cater to the booming leisure and land development industry across the Pacific.

The company has eight architects and provides services such as master planning, theme park design and landscaping.

For example, in building the 200-acre (80 ha) Tokyo Disneyland on land reclaimed from Tokyo Bay, plant testing was essential, he said.

"The plants went through extensive lab tests to find out what would happen with a sudden temperature drop. We found Tokyo's cold temperature during the winter time would make a jungle setting almost inoperative, so we installed a special heating system."

Among the planned Japanese projects in which Ramsaier's company hopes to participate is a large park for senior citizens in Aichi, and theme park projects under development by Mitsubishi Corp. and Sumitomo Corp.

Christine Logue of Logue and Associates, a Tampa-based consulting company, said the government-led movement in Japan toward reducing the number of work hours was a major reason for the leisure industry's tremendous growth potential.

"Everyone in Japan is working so hard. Now it's time for them to go for leisure," said Logue, who has assisted Florida-based companies in business dealings with Japan for the last six years.

She also noted that the Japanese government has encouraged local governments and private businesses to develop resorts used as sports facilities, golf courses, campgrounds, ski slopes, tennis courts, and amusement parks.

"The Japanese government is saying, 'We will help pay for part of the costs if we approve of the projects,'" Logue said.

"The result is," she added, "there are a lot of competition by different prefectures for government funds while many of major Japanese corporations — railways, hotels and trading houses — all are getting involved in big resort projects."

Logue pointed out one unexpected snag many Japanese corporations are facing in building and running resort facilities, especially large-scale theme parks, is a lack of qualified personnel and management know-how.

### Winter bird habitat in danger of drying

TUNIS, Feb. 21, (Reuters): The winter home of hundreds of thousands of European waterbirds — the most important wetlands area in the Mediterranean — is in danger.

Protected in the 13th century by the Berber Hafsid dynasty and a national park since 1980, shallow Lake Ichkeul in northern Tunisia is likely to become just another salt flat unless the government changes its plans to dam rivers which supply it.

Ecologists and water experts from around the world met in Tunis last weekend to try to find a compromise between the water needs of Lake Ichkeul and of north Tunisia's people.

"It's a conflict between the imperatives of economic development and the protection of the environment, which is the source of the lake's originality and fame," Abderrazak El Adab, Tunisia's director-general of forests told the meeting.

Economic development means fulfilling a plan to improve the quality of water supplied to the Tunis area and other main towns in the north and provide irrigation for farming and water for industry.

Ichkeul Park, 70 km (40 miles) northwest of Tunis, owes its wealth of bird and plant life to a balance between fresh water, which flows through during the rainy winter, and salt water, which flows in the other direction during the dry summer.

It is the only wetland in the world covered by three international conventions aimed at providing a

framework for protection of such sites — the Ramsar Convention to preserve the world's wetlands, and convention for the protection of the world's cultural and natural heritage and Unesco's network of biosphere reserves.

In winter the lake area attracts between 100,000 and 300,000 ducks, coots and geese from northwestern Europe, more than five times as many as any other wetland in the Mediterranean basin.

A report issued during the conference said that since the two dams were built in 1983 the marshes around the lake, which particularly attract greyling geese, have started to dry up and the amount of sediment flowing in has fallen.

The Tunisian authorities have tried to reassure ecologists that with financial help from abroad and some further technical studies they can both save the lake and divert some of the water for economic development.

El Adab said a comprehensive rescue plan would cost around 70 million dinars (about 80 million dollars). It would include the cost of moving the 800 people who live in the park, rearing livestock, working in quarries which will have to close, fishing or employed by the government.

Some ecologists are not convinced rescue is feasible. "One must not have any illusions. Saving Lake Ichkeul is difficult if not impossible," said Alain Tamiel of the National Centre for Scientific Research at Montpellier in France.



### Duchess of Malfi

Mick Ford as Antonio Bologna and Harriet Walter as the eponymous duchess in the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of John Webster's "The Duchess of Malfi," which recently opened at the Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, UK.

The Duchess of Malfi, a widow, is forbidden by her powerful and corrupt brothers to remarry. She not only remarries (in secret), but does so for love, thus violating the social codes of her, and Webster's time — a time in which the aristocracy made marriages in order to forge alliances. Webster was under-rated by the critics for some 200 years after his death. This century, however, he has been acclaimed as second only to Shakespeare in his power as a writer of tragedies. Other works include "The White Devil." The present production is directed by Bill Alexander and designed by Fontini Dimou.

### Britain calling

### 'War and murder' at hotels

QUALITY International Hotels, not content with warning guests not to trust anybody, are now tempting them to fight each other.

The company's 1990 Quality Breaks brochure includes the chance to dress up in uniform and fire paint pellets at "enemies," on skirmish weekends at a Plymouth hotel, and war games weekends at one in Swindon. There are also more than even of the company's popular *Murder Weekends* (in 1989 all were fully booked) where guests can play detective and are warned to suspect everyone — they could be the "murderer."

All Quality Breaks include rooms with en suite bath or shower and English breakfast. Skirmish and war games weekends cost from £115 per person, murder weekends from £145, each for two nights. Other breaks include a "Surfin' Special" based in Chester, with the chance to learn to windsurf at a

nearby watersports centre; and hot-air ballooning based at Llandrindod Wells (minimum of four people required per flight).

Further details from Marian Edge, Public Relations Consultant, Quality International Hotels, 2 Valentine Place, London SE1 8QH. Tel: 01-928 3333, Fax: 01-928 4762.

### Last Spitfire at Duxford

A Spitfire Mark 24 — last in the long line of the famed World War II fighter — has been acquired by the Imperial War Museum at Duxford Airfield. Built in 1947 at a cost of £7,442, it saw service in Hong Kong until 1955. It joins the collection of over 120 aircraft at Duxford, eight miles south of Cambridge. More information from: Francis Crosby, Duxford Airfield, Cambridge CB24 9QR. Tel: (0223) 833963; Fax: (0223) 837267.

### Canadian artist portrays Palestinian suffering

OTTAWA, (Kuna): The Palestinian tragedy has prompted a Canadian artist and poet to devote time and efforts to portray in her own way, the suffering of the Palestinians symbolised by the eyes of bewildered Palestinian children.

Heather Spears, from the province of British Columbia, says the Palestinian question was nothing but a non-starting issue for her until she was accidentally moved by a deeply touching scene at the Port of Copenhagen where she lived for the past 27 years.

"A sheer coincidence," she told Kuna has turned her life upside down two years ago when she was drawing a painting and

her eyes were distracted by the picture of a passenger ship loaded with refugees including Palestinians.

She talked to them and listened to their description of how they are presently suffering and causes forcing them to leave their homeland and the larger Arab world to choose living in northern Europe where they might find stability and feel like human beings again.

This has been so touching for her, she says, convincing her to dwell on familiarising herself with the culture, the history and misery of the Arab Palestinians throughout the past 42 years since their homeland was taken by foreigners claiming that

Palestine was their promised land.

"I started studying the Arabic language at Copenhagen University to be able to directly understand your suffering and question and to be closer to your feelings and emotions," maintains the Canadian artist who is married to a Jew.

Consequently, she adds, she took a decisive step. "I packed my bags and flew to the occupied Arab territories where I stayed for two months."

During those sixty days, Heather roamed most Palestinian cities in the occupied lands from the city of Gaza to the town of Khanyounis and even Nabulus and Jerusalem. "I learned a lot from my chil-

dren ... very much ... and that made me take the decision to make those children my subject and my question."

"They have become a part of my life and principles and have become the theme of my work and paintings."

During her visit of discovery, Heather drew more than 300 sketches using pencils and brown papers which she managed to smuggle to outside Israel without the knowledge of occupation authorities. Her sketches were a painful portrayal of the pain and misery suffered by the Palestinians but they also embodied the resistance cry for autonomy while singing for the future.



## Happy birthday



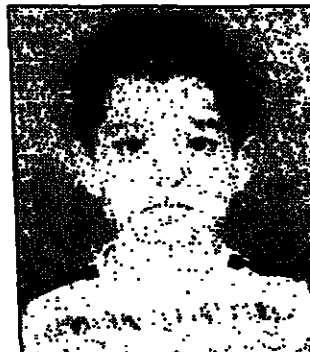
Ghazala Akhtar turns 6 on February 24



Junaid Bankotkar turns one on February 23



Mehreen Zaidi turns 9 on February 25



Liam Moniz turns 7 on February 25



Darryl D'souza turns 6 on February 28



Ethel D'souza turns 2 on February 24



Ashok Jayashankar turns 12 on February 26



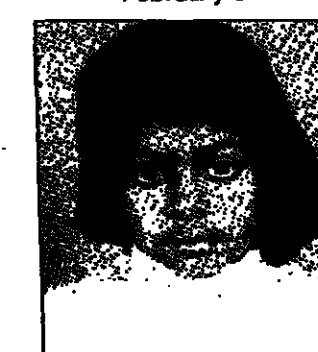
G.Sri Nidhi turns 3 on February 24



Farzeen Patel turns 5 today February 22



Manjot Nair turns 11 on February 25

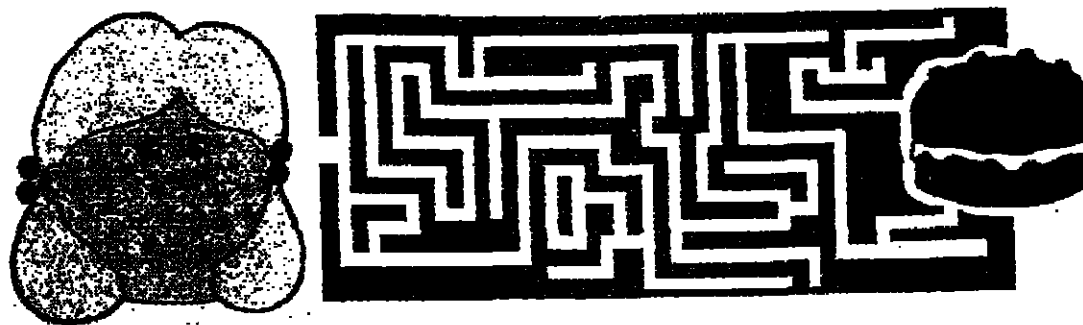


Cynthia Furtado turned 5 on February 20



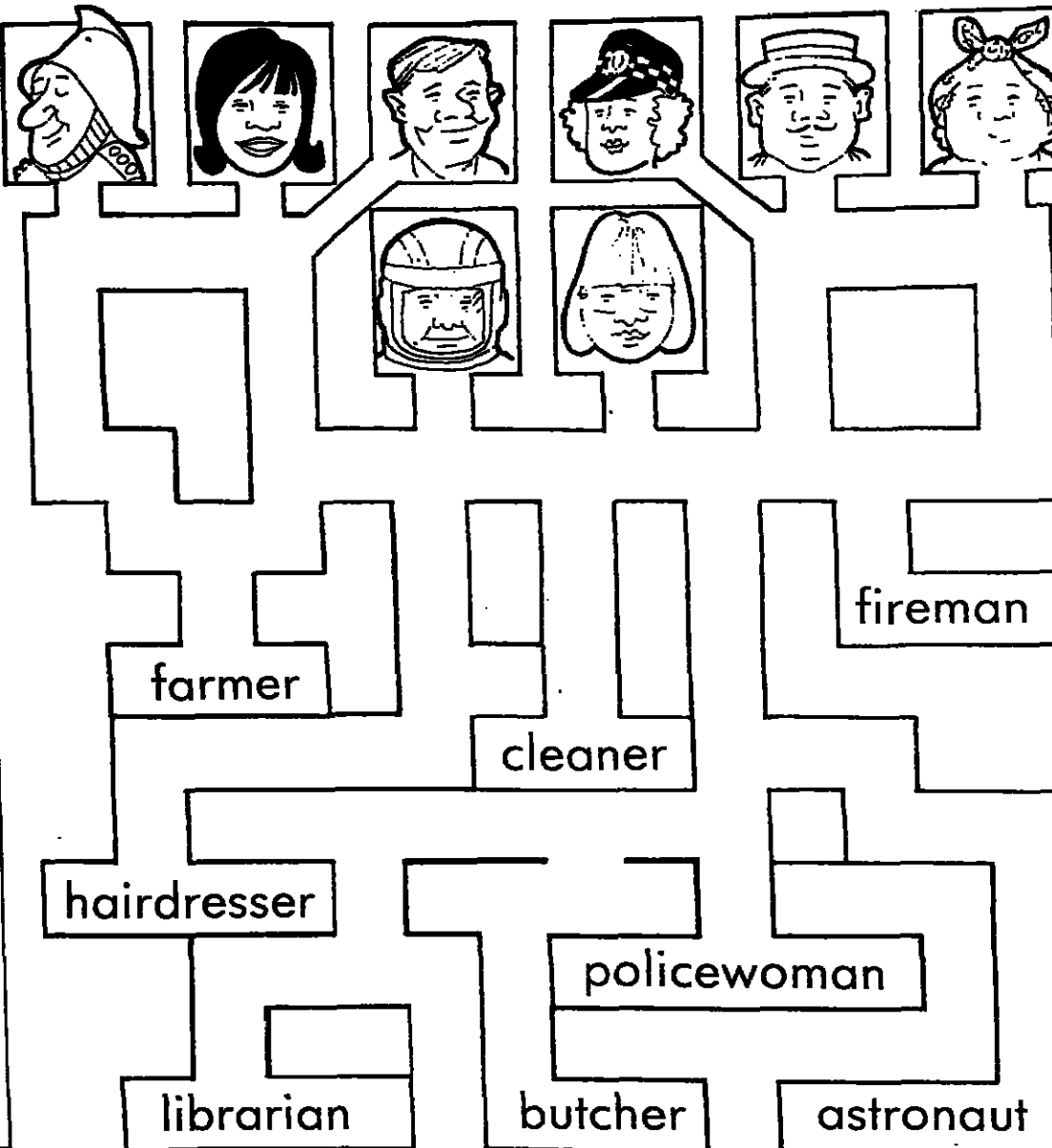
Elaine turns 9 on February 26

Find a way through each maze.

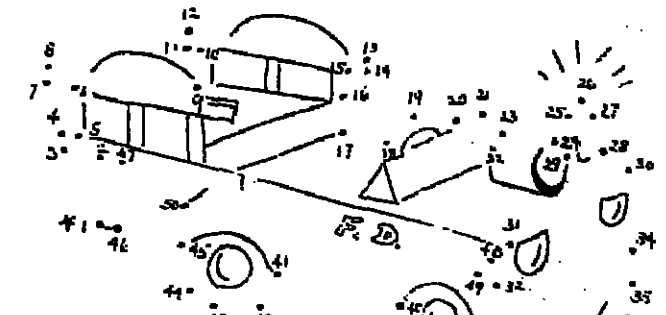
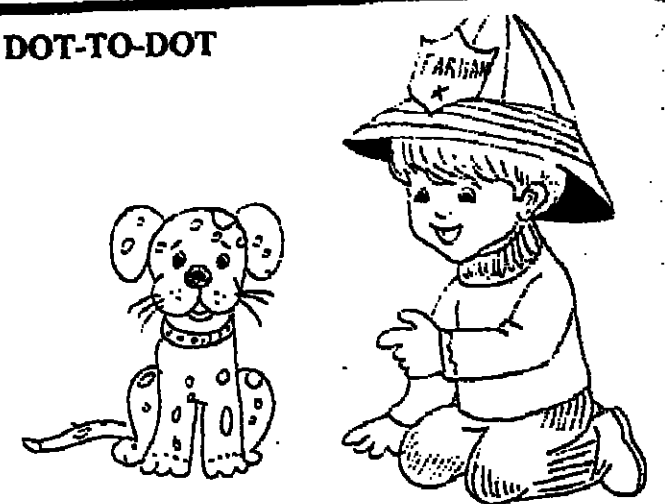


People at work Find their names.

Use a different colour for each person.



DOT-TO-DOT



"Does it have a siren?"

Zahed M. Ali

## Birthday coupon

Is your birthday to come soon?  
Are you a regular reader of the Junior Times?  
Well, now is the chance to let your friends know that it is your birthday!  
Or maybe you would like to surprise your best friend, brother or sister by putting their picture in for them.  
The details we need are:

Name: .....

Date of birth: .....

School: .....

Telephone: ..... (confidential)

Your favourite most recent picture (4x6)

Send to:  
**ARAB TIMES**  
Junior Times  
P.O. Box 2270  
13023, Safat, Kuwait  
To avoid delayed greetings please send within a week before the special date

## Variety

## Bonga's 'musical intervention' in war torn Angola

BARCELO DE CARVALHO may never have driven a tank or donned army fatigues but for Angola's Marxist government he is still a force to be reckoned with.

And his only weapon in the country's 15-year civil war is his voice. Better known by his stage name, Bonga, he is a powerful dissident singer who believes that if people are dancing to his music they can't avoid listening to its message.

"Even people from the government dance to Bonga," he says. "My records may be banned but everyone likes good music."

The 47-year-old former athlete hopes that while his audiences dance they absorb his melancholy lyrics about the bloody Angolan conflict. "Music is a strong way to open people's eyes. I've tried to make music that is good to dance to but makes people think and become conscious," Bonga told Reuters.

Bonga, who lives in self-imposed exile in Paris, spoke during a trip to Lisbon to perform for his friend Jonas Savimbi, head of the US-backed UNITA rebel group who was visiting Portugal for the first time since Angolan independence in 1975.

Once a supporter of the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), Bonga grew disillusioned with its monopoly on power and aid from Cuba and Moscow.

As he sees it, UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) offers more answers for democracy in the southern African state.

"I began to realise that the MPLA was not practising its original ideas and that Angola had not won independence because of foreign intervention and its privileged ruling elite," he said.

"I support any opposition which will rebuild Angola with a pluralistic plan."

His strongest expressions of what he calls "music of intervention" come in the last two of his 12 albums with songs like "paz em Angola" (peace in Angola), "Olhos molhados" (tearful eyes) and "uma era" (an era).

Bonga has lived in Europe since 1966 with occasional trips back home and his music reflects his hopping between continents — catchy Cape Verdean and Angolan rhythms, lyrics in Portuguese and his native Kibundu, and synthesizers and guitars coupled with thumb pianos and African drums.

He insists that language is not a barrier to popularity abroad, pointing to the huge success of the Latin

American lambada and samba. Much of his work is sold on the world music shelves of European shops, he says.

Bonga's introduction to music was with the dances and folklore of his town Kipiri.

He went to Portugal at the age of 22 to join the Benfica Athletics team — he set the national 400 metres record — and began to develop his style playing in bands with other Africans.

He began to write protest songs against Portuguese colonial rule and dabbled in political work, mainly passing on letters for the underground resistance.

But in 1972 he fled to the Netherlands fearing a crackdown by Portuguese authorities and it was there he cut his first record.

That was also the year he adopted the name Bonga, which roughly translates as "search".

Eventually Bonga settled in Paris and during periods of unemployment and disenchanted with the ravaged economy and crackdown on free speech.

"We are still not independent. We are dependent on a sectarian regime," he said. "The Angolan people are more divided now than during colonial times."

One result of that division which particularly hurts Bonga is the deterioration of his friendship with Angola's Ambassador to Lisbon, Rui Mingos. The two men — both musicians and sportsmen — played for Benfica at the same time and also played music together. They did not see each other when Bonga was last in town with Savimbi.

"The last time I spoke to him was in Angola, maybe six years ago," said Bonga. "I understand his situation. He is subjected to a totalitarian government. But it is a shame that politics and ideology separate people like that."

Bonga gave concerts in Luanda after independence from Portugal in 1975, even paying tribute to the MPLA first leader and revolutionary poet Agostinho Neto, who died in Moscow in 1979.

"We were all very happy to see Angola pass from Portuguese to African hands," he explains.

Describing his concert last year in Savimbi's southern Jamba stronghold, Bonga says: "I was well received in the south, despite being from Luanda — they recognized me as an artist, an Angolan with a voice, it had nothing to do with tribalism."

Bonga's more political songs are not played on Angolan government radio.

## Books

## Of love, lust, greed and war

**A Ruling Passion**, by Judith Michael (Penguin Press, 574 pp., \$19.95)  
The husband and wife duo who gave us "deceptions" and "Possessions" now brings to point another novel of love, lust, passion, greed and TV evangelism.

"A Ruling Passion" has something for everyone, which at times makes it seem opportunistic and shallow, but it is, nonetheless, an engaging reading adventure.

Valerie, a rich girl with everything including integrity, sybille, a girl obsessed by a lust for success but who has no integrity, and Nick, meet in college but grow apart. Sybille picks up after Valerie leaves and tricks Nick into marriage. After she is done with him, she moves on and marries the head of a TV network.

Valerie and Sybille's lives are inexorably linked, and as the ambition in Sybille's life grows, so does the ambition in Valerie's life. Sybille's life becomes chaotic as well.

Sybille's ruling passion — her ambition and need to have all — proves to be her ruin and Valerie's salvation.

"A Ruling Passion" is a soap opera fan's delight.

**Sand Castles**, by Nicholas Freeling (Mysterious Press, 224 pp., \$17.95)  
Nicholas Freeling seems to wrap up "Sand Castles" in the first few pages — Dutch criminal police bigwig Piet Van Der Valk stumbles onto a kiddie porn ring just as he starts his vacation and disposes of it in a quick 48 hours or so.

Freeling is not about to let the Van Der Valks off to enjoy the rest of their holiday, and the reader has not stumbled unaware into a collection of short stories.

Though the link that puts that episode into the same book as Van Der Valk's subsequent encounter in Germany with a prosperous expatriate seems tenuous, there are similarities of the evil evidenced in both cases.

In "Sand Castles," his umpteenth Van Der Valk police procedural, Freeling gives his protagonist some small victories against a few bad guys and allows him to fight others to a draw. The author's snappy sentences and jaundiced air leave you with the feeling that's the best we can hope for, and like a Freeling book, that's a pretty good bargain.

**Vietnam's Day: A Vietnam Memoir**, by Rod Kane (Orion, 314 pp., \$18.95)  
Most of the two dozen or more memoirs published by Vietnam veterans have generally taken one of two stances. They have either been flag-waving. "We could have won it if they'd let us," blood-and-guts accounts of a tour of duty or they have been bitter anti-war chronicles.

Rod Kane's book deals only briefly — but at times graphically — with his experiences as a combat medic for the legendary 1st Cavalry division in the early days of the war.



A still from Casualties of War featuring Michael J. Fox and Sean Penn.

Irish culture thrives in Monaco  
James Joyce symposium in June

MONACO, (Reuters): Tucked away in the centuries-old heart of the sunny Mediterranean principality of Monaco, far from the misty shores of Ireland, is a thriving centre of Irish culture.

Its focal point is the Princess Grace Irish Library, which this year will attract literary experts from around the world for the 12th International James Joyce symposium in June.

The principality's ruler, Prince Rainier III, is determined to show that behind the glitter of the famous gambling casino and its jet-set patrons, his tiny country has a more serious side.

He founded the library in 1984, after the death of his wife, the former film star Grace Kelly, an American of Irish ancestry.

"Princess Grace was well-read, partly thanks to Alfred Hitchcock's influence," library Director George Sandulescu told Reuters.

Prince Rainier wanted her important collection of books about Ireland, or by Irish authors, to be available to scholars and the public, rather than be hidden away in the palace archives.

"The library is partly financed by the foundation she set up before her death. We are lucky in having generous funds to buy books, and are always on the look-out for private collections or new works to add to our stock," Sandulescu said.

Among the people the Prince called in to help set it up were British novelist Anthony Burgess, a Monaco resident with Irish ancestors, and British-born Virginia Gallico, widow of the American writer Paul Gallico, and a close friend of the late Princess.

Burgess is a regular contributor to the library's cultural events, either as a speaker of Joyce, on whom he is a noted authority, or as a composer. His chamber music, such as recently composed guitar quartet, is played at concerts held in the library's lecture hall.

Burgess will give a talk entitled "Joyce as Novelist" to mark the start of the Joyce symposium on June 11. Hemmed in by the French Riviera on one side and Italy on the other, the principality is a fitting place for the study of Joyce's works.

The song *The Man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo* appears as a leitmotiv in his great novel "Ulysses." Joyce is known to have visited Monaco during a stay in Nice shortly after the work's publication.

## Activity

Housed in an old restored building close to the Grimaldi Palace, part of which dates back to the 13th century, the library is a source of literary and musical activity which reaches far beyond Monaco's frontiers.

In 1987 it hosted an international conference on the works of the Irish poet William Butler Yeats, who died in the nearby medieval village of Roquebrune in 1939. An exhibition of 50 paintings by his brother Jack will run simultaneously with this year's Joyce seminar.

One of the oldest works of the library's shelves is an "account of Ireland," written in Spanish and published in Amsterdam in 1491.

A copy of the Irish playwright Samuel Beckett's play "How It Is," with a personal dedication to the library, rubs shoulders with an extract from Joyce's "Finnegan's Wake" illustrated by his daughter Lucia, who was once Beckett's girlfriend.

There are also books by contemporary Irish authors and politicians such as Bernadette Devlin, a leading campaigner for civil rights for Catholics in Northern Ireland in the 1960s.

"Post-graduate scholars come from all over Europe to use our facilities, which include a computerised reference system and video equipment," Sandulescu said.

## Justice seekers

By Brian Hollis

THE removal of Columbia Pictures from the list of banned companies has prompted the release of a flood of recent and older titles from this company. Their main offerings include *Ghostbusters II*, *Karate Kid III*, *Little Nikita* and *Leonard Part 6*. Bill Cosby's disastrous entry into the film world.

One of Columbia's most successful 1989 releases was *Casualties of War* starring Michael J. Fox and Sean Penn. Director Brian de Palma returns to form in this controversial war drama based on true events. In the opening sequence, Eriksson, played by Fox, is saved at the last moment by his lawless commanding officer, Sgt. Meserve, played by Penn. When Meserve's best friend is subsequently killed by a sniper, he decides to avenge the death by kidnapping a village girl and gang-raping her. Eriksson, a green recruit with wife and kid back home, tries furiously to stop the assault, and when the platoon finally kills the girl, he forces a murder investigation, against the wishes of all his superiors. The film develops into a nightmarish attempt to find justice, which concludes with some satisfaction for Eriksson, but at a very high cost.

The movie explores the subject of gang violence and the problems of an intelligent and compassionate youth in a world of violence and destruction. tough, unsettling film making, but undeniably a riveting story.

*Bloodhounds of Broadway* is a hodgepodge of Damon Runyon stories loosely held together by the narration of a Broadway columnist. In the first, Rutger Hauer is stabbed in a speakeasy in 1928, and trucked to various girlfriends' homes for treatment, but rebuffed by all. In another, inveterate gambler Matt Dillon attempts to reconcile with his true love, but pauses for feminine charms along the way.

The above films are by courtesy of VFI, Fintas/Farwaniya; Video Nurf, Saliya Complex; and Video Club, Saliya.



Ghostbusters II



Dear Junior Readers,  
An essential part of your participation in school is paying attention in class. This is sometimes difficult because it is easy to let your mind wander and to begin thinking about what you will do at break time or after school with your friends.

To be a successful student, however, you must give the teacher your full attention. A way of helping you to be an active student is to take notes about what the teacher is saying or to repeat in your mind the information given. Look at the teacher when she/he is speaking.

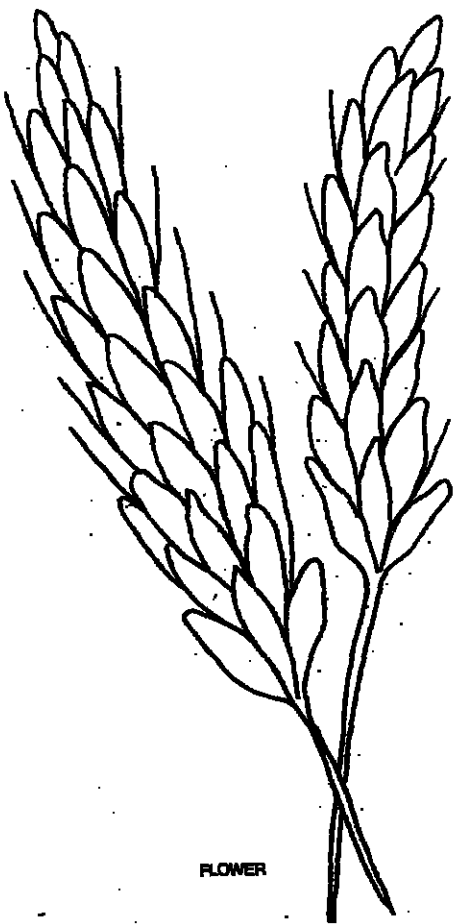
and remove any thing from your desk that might be a distraction.

Anyone can simply sit in a chair in a classroom. But an active student is mentally alert and aware of the instruction taking place.

Be an active student by focusing your attention on the teacher, and then you will enjoy your break and after school time, knowing that you have listened and understood what was taught in the classroom.

Mandi

### Colour Time



FLOWER

Which two Russian dolls are the same?



### Just for laughs!

My uncle's goldfish went red last week. He thinks the water made it go rusty.

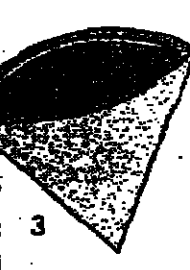
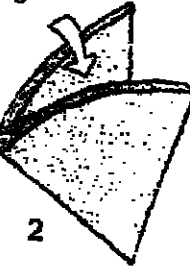
I've just managed to cross a hyena with a man-eating tiger. I'm not sure what I've got, but when he laughs we all join in.

My uncle said, 'I've invented a pen with a little bug inside it that allows it to listen in to secret conversations.'

I said, 'Does it have a name?'  
He said, 'Yes. Nosey Parker.'

### A Mother's day card

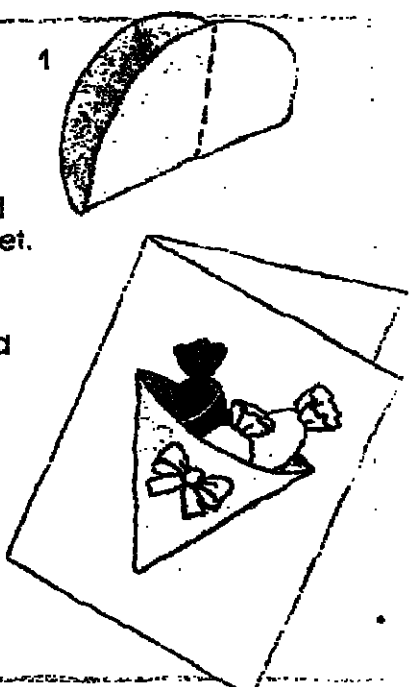
glue



Fold a dolly or circle of coloured paper in half and half again to make a pocket.

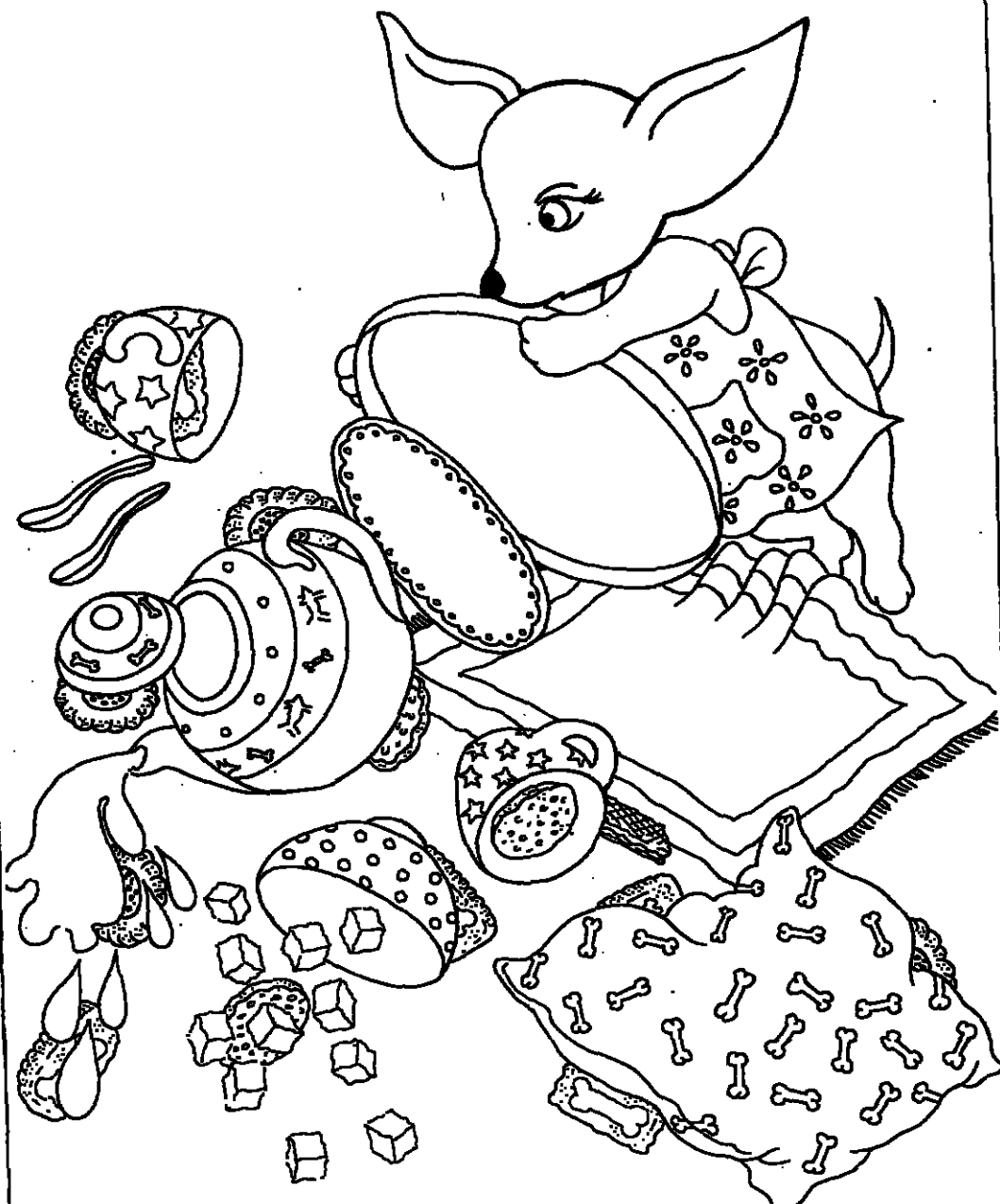
Stick to the front of the card and add a little bow of paper or ribbon.

Fill with sweets or a tiny tablet of soap to give to Mum or Grandma.



### Biscuit trouble!

Cornelia has dropped the tea tray  
How many biscuits can you see?



### Wordsearch

THE HOT TROPICS

How wonderful it would be to get away to the tropics during the winter. The sun and warm breezes can make anyone feel as good as new. Join us!

BALMY	HAPPY	PARTY	TIDE
BEACH	HOLIDAY	RELAX	TOUR
BOATS	HOTEL	RESORT	TRAVEL
BREEZY	ISLANDS	REST	TRIP
CHARM	LEI	SAIL	VISIT
DANCE	LUAU	SANDY	WARM
DIVING	LUSH	SIGHTS	WATER
ENTERTAIN	MUSIC	SUNSHINE	WAVES
FLOWERS	OCEAN	SWELTER	WEATHER
GRAND	PACIFIC	SWIM	



### Firsts and lasts

The Canadian flag with the red maple leaf was first used in 1965.

More people have lived on earth during the last century than lived on the planet in the preceding 10,000 years.

The recorder was developed from prehistoric flutes but was first mentioned in 1388.

### Volcano

A VOLCANO is caused by forces inside the Earth. Pressures inside the Earth push up against the Earth's crust. Sometimes the pressure causes magma (the molten rock inside the Earth) to burst through a weak point in the crust. As the liquid rock cools, it piles up higher and higher, forming a mountain.

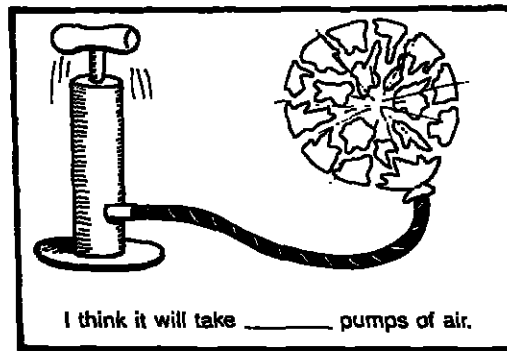


How many pumps of air (the pressure in the Earth) will it take before a balloon (the Earth's crust) will burst at its weakest point?

Materials Needed: bicycle pump, balloon, string

- Procedure
1. Tie the balloon to the bicycle pump.
  2. Pump up the balloon until it bursts.
  3. Keep a picture record here.

### Hypothesis

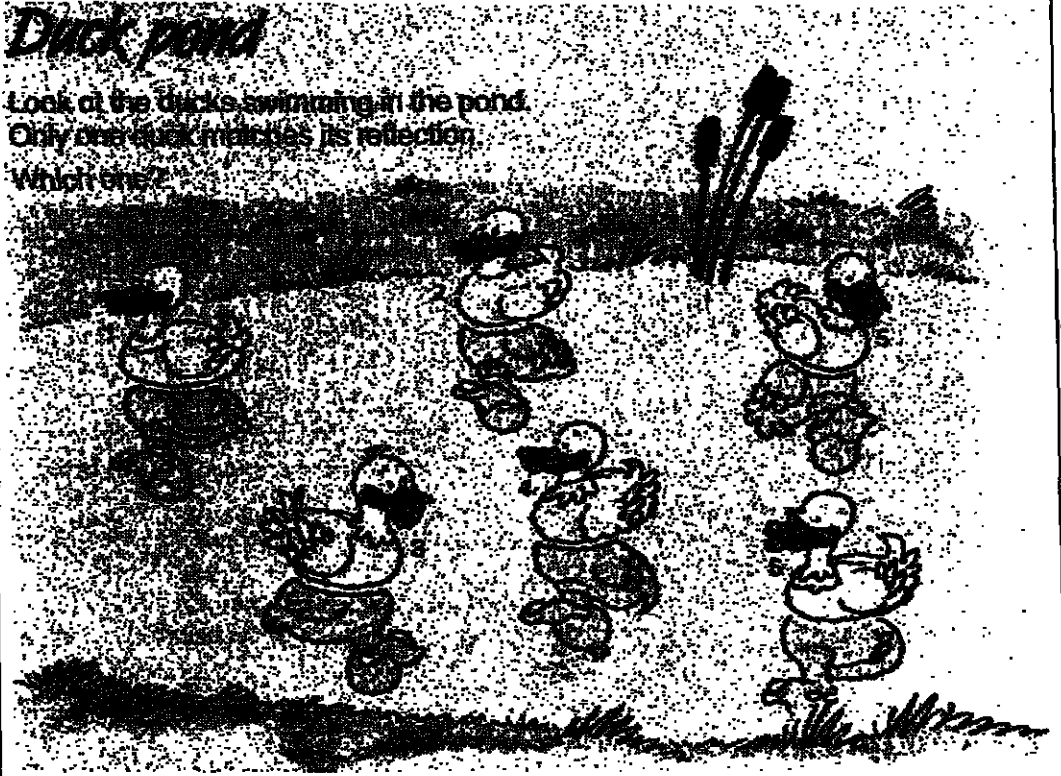


This is what the balloon looked like at:

0 pumps	5 pumps	10 pumps	When it broke at _____ pumps.

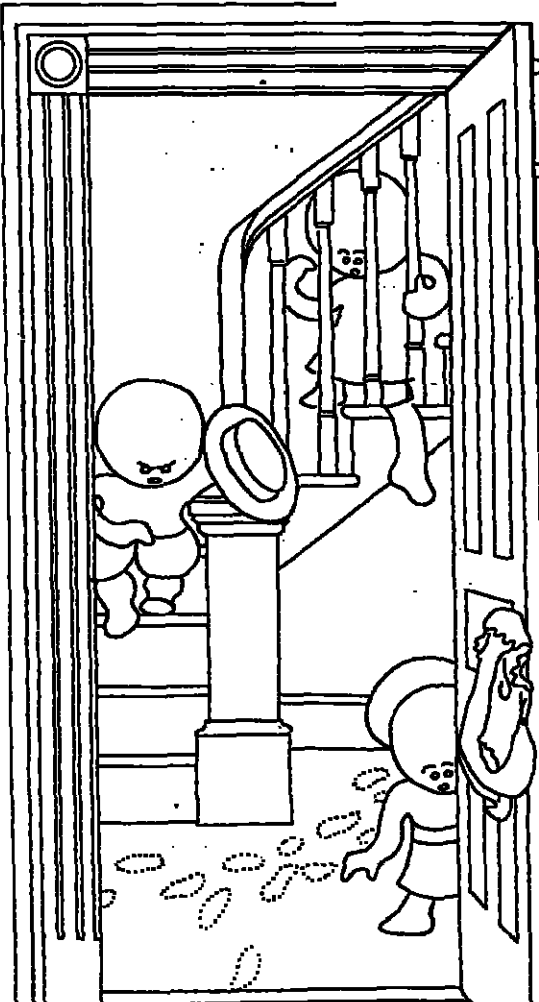
### Results and Conclusions

1. How many pumps did it take to burst the balloon? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Is that what you thought? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What did you learn? \_\_\_\_\_



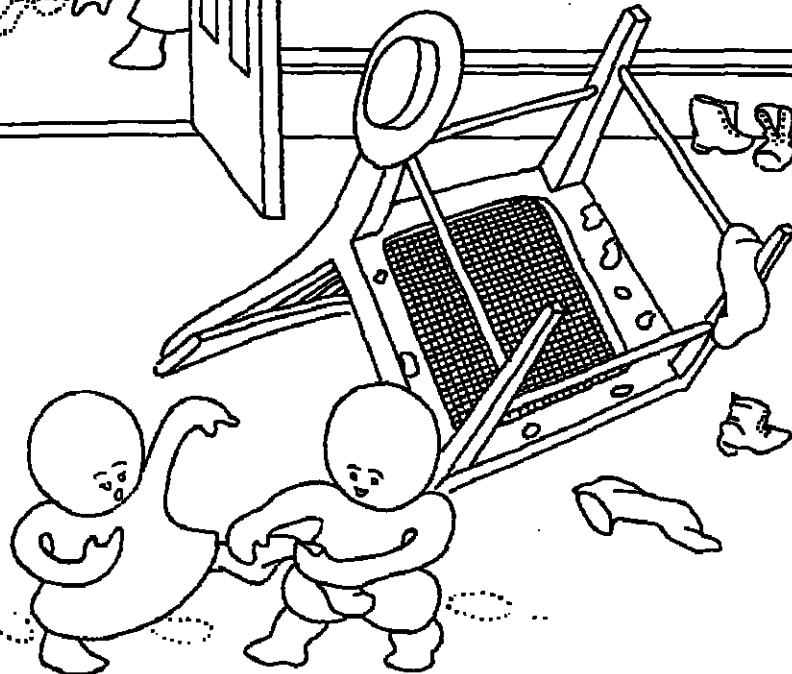
Look at the ducks swimming in the pond.  
Only one duck makes its reflection.  
Which one?

### The Goops again

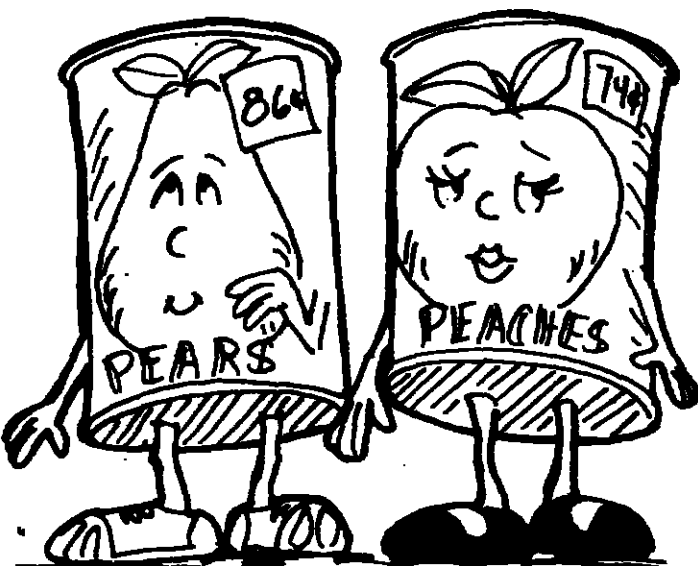


### NEATNESS

Goops leave traces everywhere—  
Gum stuck underneath the chair,  
Muddy footprints in the hall,  
Show that Goops have been to call;  
Shoes and stockings on the floor  
Show where Goops have been before!



### The grocery store



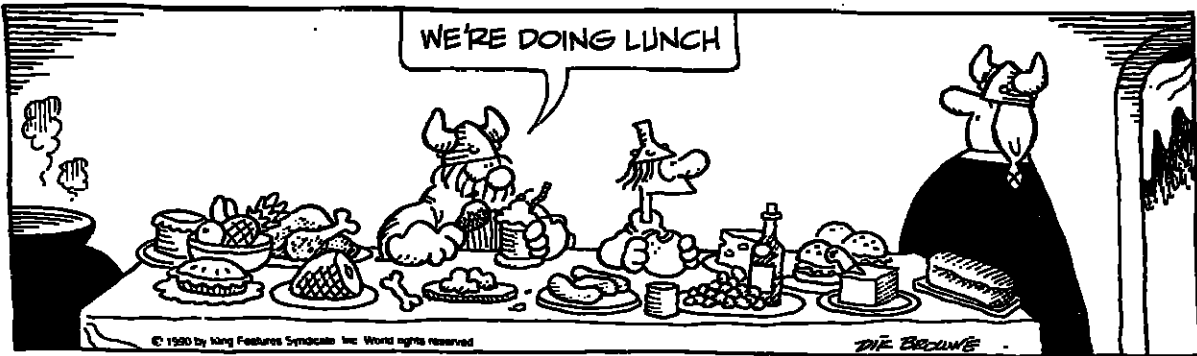
1. Danielle works at the store putting prices on items. She must price the canned fruit. She marks 74 cans of peaches, 48 cans of pears and 92 cans of fruit cocktail. How many items did she price?
2. In the produce department, Mrs Romano buys artichokes at 49c each, tomatoes at 69c a pound and 10 pounds of potatoes at \$1.98. She bought 7 artichokes, 5 pounds of tomatoes and 1 ten pound sack of potatoes. How much will her produce cost?
3. Sam likes to fill his freezer each month. He buys 10 cans of orange juice at 65c a can, 3 quarts of ice cream at \$1.89 a quart and 5 frozen TV dinners at \$1.59 each. How much does it cost to fill his freezer this month?
4. Jens works 8 hours a day for 6 days this week. How many hours does he work? \_\_\_\_\_ He gets paid \$7.50 an hour. How much will he earn this week? \_\_\_\_\_
5. The store is open from 10 o'clock in the morning until 9 o'clock at night. How many hours is it open? \_\_\_\_\_



## BLONDIE



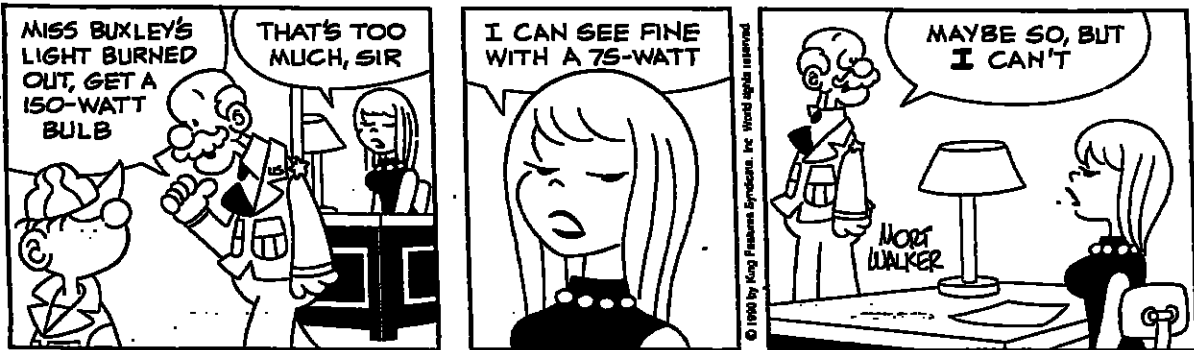
## NAGAR THE HORRIBLE



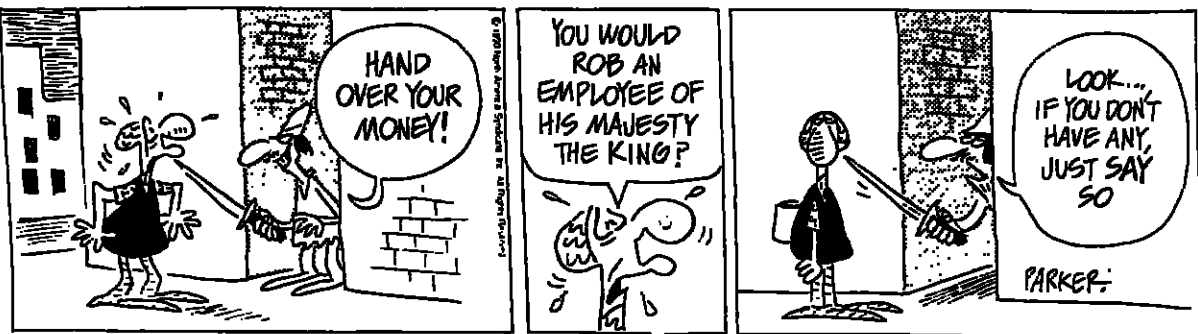
## AGATHA CRUMH



## BEETLE BAILEY



## THE WIZARD OF ID



## ANDY CAPP



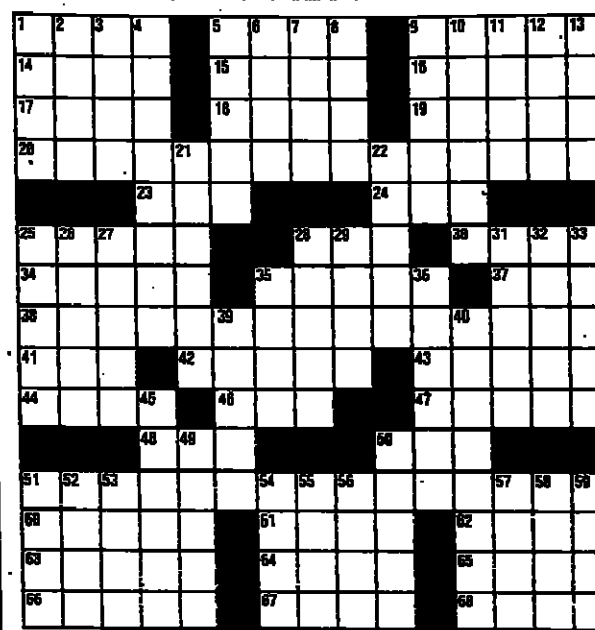
## B.C.



## HE-MAN



## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- 1 "He's feeling his —"
  - 5 Blackthorn
  - 9 Texas shrine
  - 14 Mother, in Marselles
  - 15 Monk's abode
  - 16 Father, at Eton
  - 17 Perched
  - 18 Latvian port
  - 19 Expiate
  - 20 Legendary
  - 23 Chemist's workplace, for short
  - 24 Summer, in Soissons
  - 25 Famous fur merchant
  - 28 Recede
  - 30 California wine valley
  - 34 "Silver lining" location
  - 35 Cabbage, in Köln
  - 37 Battery terminal: Abbr.
  - 38 Fairy-tale siblings
  - 41 Heart test, for short
  - 42 Douse in clean water
  - 43 "— of Two Cities"
  - 44 Embossed emblem
  - 46 Court feature
  - 47 Hope or cedar
  - 48 Found before "MacDonald"
  - 50 "— Willie Winkie"
  - 51 "Early TV couple"
  - 60 Paperboy's territory
  - 61 Algerian port
  - 62 Italian noble family
- DOWN
- 2 Recluse
  - 4 Farewell, to Caesar
  - 6 Edmonton's prov.
  - 8 Arabian chiefs
  - 10 Stone and Iron
  - 12 Onion's cousin
  - 13 Poet
  - 14 Khayyam
  - 15 Before plane or drome
  - 16 Pleasingly neat
  - 17 Cleanse by rubbing
  - 18 Gerlands
  - 19 Gymnast
  - 20 Korbut
  - 21 Spirit
  - 22 Separate
  - 23 Type of sail
  - 24 Power source
  - 25 Bill of fare
  - 26 Bauxite and hematite
  - 27 Pantry
  - 28 Eliminate errors
  - 29 Companion of pains
  - 26 Allay
  - 27 Kingdom in the SW Pacific
  - 28 Hollywood's Lubitsch
  - 29 Commanded
  - 30 Plasters
  - 31 Removes rind
  - 32 Shoelace tip
  - 33 "Citizen —": 1941 film
  - 34 Detective, at times
  - 35 Singer
  - 36 Ronstadt
  - 37 Tenuous
  - 38 Linger aimlessly
  - 39 Sly looks
  - 40 Dwindles
  - 41 Heraldic border
  - 42 Type of lens
  - 43 Pueblo dweller
  - 44 Bossa —
  - 45 Pull along
  - 46 Hearty's companion
  - 47 Man, for one
  - 48 After luncheon
  - 49 East Indian tree

## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

WOKS WARM BREED  
ADORE AND ENATE  
NORTHSTAR WASTE  
ERATO ENNUI TAM  
SNORED ESTER  
SUGAR ACTIVE  
LEW SATIED HOVEL  
OREB DEBIT NERO  
ASSAM SUSAN RAN  
DETAIN TRIES  
PRAID ELITES  
LAO SILUMP GELID  
ILLUM SOUTHPOLE  
MANNA KOTO OPEN  
RETEL YSER NEXIT

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
THE BEST CHANCE

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH  
♠ A 4 2  
♥ A Q J  
♦ A 7 4  
♣ J 9 7 5

WEST

♠ 7 3

♥ 4 2

♦ K Q 8 6 2

♣ K 4 3 2

EAST

♠ Q 10 8 6

♥ 8 7 3

♦ 10 9

♣ A Q 10 6

SOUTH

♠ K J 9 5

♥ K 10 9 6 5

♦ J 5 3

♣ 8

The bidding:

South West North East

Pass Pass 1 NT Pass

2 ♣ Pass 2 ♦ Pass

3 ♥ Pass 4 ♥ Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♠

We are indebted to a reader, D. Bruce Graff of San Jose, Calif., for this hand from a recent Swiss Team event. It illustrates an oft-stated principle: Don't put all your eggs in one basket. See if some other life of the cards won't deliver your contract.

Four hearts is a perfectly normal contract, reached here after a Stay-

man sequence. Three no trump, difficult to reach, would have made as the cards lie.

West got the defense off to an excellent start with a trump lead. With one club and two diamond losers, four hearts needed a good dollop of luck—declarer was going to have to bring in the spade suit without losing a trick.

The most likely combinations involve a winning finesse and a 3-3 break, or else a successful finesse and a 4-2 spade split, which permits the fourth spade to be ruffed as long as the hand short in spades holds no more than two trumps.

Once you have worked that out your line of play becomes obvious. Since you still have some chance if the spade finesse loses (you might be able to discard a diamond from dummy on the fourth spade and ruff a diamond on some distributions), you should lead a spade to the jack at trick two. If that wins draw a second round of trumps, cash the ace of spades and continue with a spade to the king.

If spades are 3-3, draw the last trump and claim your contract. If they are 4-2 and the distribution is as in the diagram, West cannot ruff the king of spades, so ruff your last spade for the 10th trick.



## YOUR STARS



Aries  
March 21 - April 20

You should allow commonsense to prevail. Make sure you concentrate essentials and do not waste time on trivialities. Do not disperse your efforts. Be objective.



Cancer  
June 21 - July 20

Others will not always have your best interests at heart. And for your part you should put your own interest first without being selfish. Indeed you will find that by helping others you in the end help yourself.



Libra  
Sept 23 - Oct 23

You should not try to make capital out of someone else's temporary embarrassment. Instead help them and they will not be slow to show their gratitude. You should think long and hard before you choose between alternatives.



Capricorn  
Dec 21 - Jan 19

You will be tempted to spend more than you can afford, think again. Concentrate on essentials and leave secondary matters until you have a bit more time for them. However do not become superficial or drop your standards.



Taurus  
April 21 - May 20

You will not find it easy to come to terms with reality. It is however important that you should make the effort, do not allow yourself to become imprisoned in a dream world. Avoid going to extremes, too. Be fair.



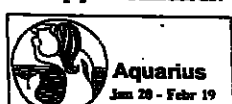
Leo  
July 21 - Aug 23

You should not leave travel arrangements until the last minute. Make sure you meet your commitments and do not break a promise. Your lucky numbers are 9 and 26. Take care you do not eat too many sweet things. Be resilient.



Scorpio  
Oct 23 - Nov 23

You have the wind in your sails, but if you do not take care you may head in the wrong direction. You should not judge by surface appearances, look a little more closely. Have an open mind towards change. Be alert.



Aquarius  
Jan 20 - Feb 19

You should not let others dictate to you, but you should not be too proud to take good advice. You will be able to notice a mistake and correct it before any great harm is done.



Gemini  
May 21 - June 20

Ensure you do not do any thing that is bound to be bad for your health. Not every thing is as you would wish it to be but you will be able to make the best of things. Have just a little more faith in yourself. Be generous.



Virgo  
Aug 23 - Sept 23

Work hard but do not neglect your personal affairs either. You should not allow yourself to get overtired, make sure you take enough time off and have a good rest without being indolent. A little more optimism is in order. Be moderate.



Sagittarius  
Nov 23 - Dec 20

You will be better able to do what is needed to meet your commitments. Do not leave until later what should be done now. Keep your eyes wide open and do not believe all you hear. Be responsive.



Pisces  
Feb 20 - March 20

You will be able to do something you have long wanted to do but it will prove a little disappointing.



"What exactly do you do around here, Mildew?"



"Sure I'll take you out to dinner! Which two restaurants?"



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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**SALMIYA**, near the fire station. Spacious room with water, electricity and tele. facilities for Indian, Sri Lankan couples or working ladies/bachelors. Tel. Rocky/Shobha, 5738802.

**SALMIYA**, near the Fire Station, in suitable location, separate room in a double bedroom flat for bachelors or family. Tel. Habibur Rahman, 5735299 am-1 pm, 4-9 pm.

**DAIYA Area 3**, Street 37, House 7. Three rooms with water and electricity for Pakistani and Indian families. Bus routes 14, 37, 38, 502. Contact Soud, after 5pm.

**RUMATHIYA**, a fully furnished room with tele. and kitchen facilities for a bachelor or working lady. Tel. 5613895.

**SALMIYA**, beside the Indian/Pakistani School, fully furnished accommodation for a small family, available from 17th March to 10th June 1990. Tel. 5634641, after 3 pm.

**NUGRA**, Khaloon Street, one room, furnished, with tele. facilities, for one or two bachelors to share with an Indian family. Rent KD80. Tel. Oberoi, 4740801, 2644645, res.

**QADISIYA**, Area 4, Street 45, House 18. Three rooms with water, electricity and tele. facilities for Pakistani and Indian families. Bus routes 18, 18, 14, 37. Tel. Mrs Zahida, 2520249, after 5 pm.

**KUWAIT City**, Sharq, behind the Firdous cinema, House 87, rooms in Arabic type villa for Indian, Sri Lankan, Bangladeshi, or Filipino families. Contact Francis personally, evenings.

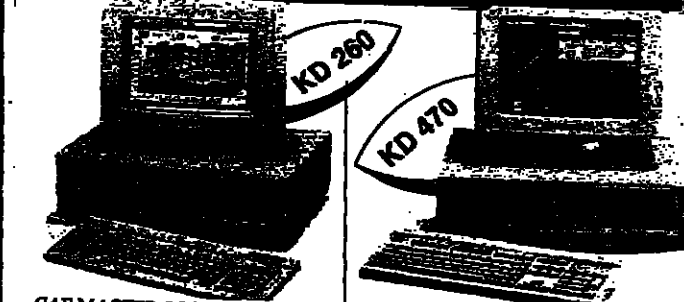
**SALWA**, part of ground floor, preferably for a European couple. Tel. 5753101, 6-9 pm.

**FARWANIYA**, One room with kitchen facilities, for single or two bachelors, in a 2-bedroom flat. Very convenient location. Tel. Carvalho, 2418634, 2418550.

**SALWA**, House 196, Block 7, Area 4, one room with water, electricity and separate kitchen for a family or bachelors to share with an Indian family. Rent KD50. Tel. 5611243.

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## Four seeds fall at US Pro tourney

## Gilbert blasts Wilkison



Qattami (2nd left) with Pacheco (2nd right), Al Shaheen and club captain Ken Smith in the background.

## Qattami wins trophy

THE first Al Mulla sponsored competition at the Hunting and Equestrian Club ended dramatically with five players tied for first place. Sixty-four players contested this competition for the Al Mulla trophy which was held on Friday under the Stableford rules.

With five players tied at 37 points, the winner on a count back was Kuwaiti businessman Qattami Al Qattami who carded 22 points on the back nine holes which was the best of the day.

In second place was B.S. Chang, third place went to J.K. Chang, fourth to A. Basro and fifth to Y.Y. Jin. Others with high scores were: Adnan Assaf, H.S. Shim and D. Grey all with 35 points.

In side competition K.S. Lamba won nearest to the pin prize on the par-3 fifth while for the ladies Mrs Insuck S. Lee won the prize on the par-3 thirteenth.

The longest drive for men was won with the last drive of the day by J.H. Kim on the par-5 twelfth hole and for the ladies Monique de Meuron was the winner on the same hole.

Trophies were presented by Al Mulla director Ivan Pacheco and the Hunting and Equestrian general manager, Mohammad Majid Al Shaheen.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 21. (UPI) Second-seed Brad Gilbert easily won his first match but four other seeded players fell yesterday in the second round of the \$1 million Ebel US Pro Indoor Tennis Championships.

Gilbert, the world's fifth-ranked player, shook off some second-set sluggishness to defeat Tim Wilkison, 6-2, 7-5.

But sixth-seeded Andre Chesnokov, 12th-seeded David Wheaton, 15th-seeded Scott Davis and 16th-seeded Mikael Pernfors did not make it to the third round.

Chesnokov, currently ranked 16th in the world, was ousted by Petr Korva, of Czechoslovakia, 6-2, 6-4, while Glenn Layendecker defeated Wheaton, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4, Davis fell to Mark Kratzman, of Australia, 7-5, 4-6, 6-1, and Pernfors, of Sweden, lost to Paul Haarhuis, of the Netherlands, 4-6, 7-6, (7-0), 7-5.

In other second-round matches, seventh-seeded Andres Gomez, of Ecuador, advanced with a 7-5, 6-2 victory over Andrew Sznajder, of Canada, eighth-seeded Jim Courier defeated Kelly Evernden, of New Zealand, 7-6 (7-5), 6-4, 13th-seeded Peter Sampras beat Milan Srejber, of Czechoslovakia, 6-3, 6-7 (4-7), 6-3 and 11th-seeded Jaime Yzaga, of Peru, defeated

Chris Garner, 6-0, 6-4.

In the conclusion of the first round, Ramesh Krishnan, of India, defeated Todd Witsken, 6-2, 6-2, and Paul Annacone topped Niclas Kroon, of Sweden, 6-7 (13-15), 6-2, 6-4.

After easily winning the first set of his match against Wilkison, Gilbert found himself trailing 5-3 in the second. But he rallied to win four straight games and took the match when Wilkison hit a half volley long.

Afterwards, Gilbert complained about being scheduled to play in the afternoon, rather than at night.

Chesnokov, who was facing Korva for the first time in his career, had problems with the left-hander throughout the match.

The first set was tied 2-2 when Korva, who is ranked 53rd, won four straight games, breaking Chesnokov twice, including the finale. Korva won the set when Chesnokov hit a volley long.

Chesnokov played a little better in the second set, which was tied at 4-4, but Korva broke the Russian's serve to take the lead and held his own serve to win the match when Chesnokov's shot from the baseline sailed long.

"He's a good player," Chesnokov said. "I played OK. I had a chance to win a few games that I

lost. I guess I was not ready to play today."

Haarhuis, ranked 69th in the world, trailed 5-2 in the second set but rallied to force a tiebreak, in which he won all seven points.

Haarhuis had to rally again in the third set, this time from a 5-4 deficit, but won three straight games to take the match from Pernfors, who is ranked No. 40.

Kratzman, who advanced to the main draw after a weekend qualifying tournament, swept the last five games of his match against Davis.

Kratzman will play the winner of today's meeting between top seed John McEnroe and Richey Reneberg.

Sampras, a rising American player, dominated Srejber in the first set, but the Czechoslovakian took a 3-1 lead after a service break in the second set.

Sampras broke back to tie the set at 3-3 lead after a service break in the second set.

Sampras broke back to tie the set at 3-3 and both held serve until the tiebreak, in which Srejber trailed 4-3 but he won four straight points to win the set.

In the third set, Sampras broke Srejber for a 4-2 lead when the Czechoslovakian double faulted and he won the match on his second match point when Srejber's shot went long.



Krishnan beat Witsken

## Forget loses to his best friend

STUTTGART, West Germany, Feb. 21. (AP) Third-seeded Yannick Noah of France beat his friend and fellow countryman Guy Forget yesterday to advance to the second round of the \$1 million ATP Eurocard Classic tennis tournament.

Noah, playing after a 10-day break, won a hard serving contest 6-4, 7-6 (7-4) to join fifth-seeded Emilio Sanchez of Spain and unseeded players Magnus Gustafsson of Sweden and Aki Rahunen of Finland in the second round.

Top-seeded Ivan Lendl and second-seeded Boris Becker both were to play first round matches this evening. Lendl, bidding for his fourth straight tournament title, faces Italian Omar Camporese while Becker meets Australian qualifier Brod Dyke.

Although happy at earning a spot in the second round, Noah was not too happy at having provided his best friend and doubles partner Forget with a first-round loss.

"The atmosphere was not good at all," Noah said. "I don't like to play him because he is such a good friend, it's not very pleasant. When we are on the court we just try not to look at each other."

Noah broke serve in the third game of the first set although Forget kept the match tight. But Forget made a double fault and a wayward volley in the second set tiebreak to allow Noah to go from 3-4 to 5-4.

Sanchez needed only 54 minutes to defeat Sweden's Jan Gunnarsson 6-4, 6-1.

Rahunen advanced by beating another Sanchez, Javier, 7-6 (7-4), 6-3, while Gustafsson ousted Goran Ivanisevic of Yugoslavia 4-6, 7-6 (7-3), 6-4.

Becker, joined the growing criticism of the fledgling ATP Tour yesterday by saying the Tour schedule is too demanding combined with other championships.

The Association of Tennis Professionals took over the running of the men's tour from the Men's Tennis Council on January 1 with the full backing of the players.

But recent comments from Ivan Lendl and John McEnroe — and now Becker — suggest support for the Tour is waning.

"To be asked to play 11 ATP tournaments plus the four Grand Slam championships (Wimbledon, US Open, French Open and Australian Open) is too much," Becker said.

The West German tennis star is second seed behind Ivan Lendl at the one million-dollar Eurocard Classic here and opens his account Wednesday against Australian qualifier Brod Dyke.

"They (the ATP Tour) have to change certain rules in time for 1991. That's for sure. If they don't, I think we will all have a huge problem," Becker told reporters.

Becker also cited his many commitments as the reason for his lack of enthusiasm for playing Davis Cup in 1990.

John McEnroe will learn by the end of the week whether his appeal against disqualification from last month's Australian Open has been successful.

"We are in the process of reviewing all the evidence and expect to make an announcement probably on Friday," said Bill Babcock, Grand Slam administrator at the International Tennis Federation in London.

McEnroe was defaulted from his fourth-round match with Sweden's Mikael Pernfors in Melbourne after a series of rule infractions that culminated in verbal abuse against officials.

Babcock declined to comment on the changes of McEnroe's appeal succeeding but told the Daily Mail newspaper they didn't look good.

"A default in any event is serious but in a Grand Slam it has far more exposure and significance," he said.

## Shriver brushes aside best friend

## Smith upsets Kelesi



Shriver scored an easy victory

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21. (Reuters) Seventh seed Pam Shriver showed that regaining her winning form took precedence over friendship when she crushed fellow American Elise Burgin 6-0, 6-2 at the Washington tennis tournament yesterday.

American Anne Smith scored the biggest first round upset of the \$350,000 event when she eliminated fifth seed Helen Kelesi of Canada 6-1, 6-2 in just 65 minutes.

Smith frustrated Kelesi with her slice backhand and strong first serve, which accounted for eight aces, as she controlled the match.

"She didn't give me anything. She served really well. I was just frustrated and mainly I wanted to get off the court," Kelesi admitted.

In other first round play, eighth seed Nathalie Tauziat of France eliminated American Kathy Rinaldi 7-5, 6-3 and Patty Fendick cruised past fellow

American Ann Henricksson 6-2, 6-1.

The tournament's top four seeds, including second-ranked Martina Navratilova, received first round byes and were not scheduled to play until this evening.

Shriver, ranked 16th in the world, blasted six aces past her best friend as she swept the first eight games from Burgin, who failed to reach a single break point and struggled the entire match to find any rhythm on her groundstrokes.

Shriver, who dropped out of the top-10 last September for the first time since 1979, said she has been friends with Burgin since childhood, but added that she needed a victory no matter who she played.

"I was nervous and anxious for three days before the match and I just wanted to get it over with. It wasn't fun," Shriver said. "But the bottom line is that I've been struggling and a win is a win, business is business."

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3. Who will win the Gulf Cup Tournament held in Kuwait 1990?

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## Honeyghan vows to KO Breland

NEW YORK, Feb. 21. (Reuters) Former champion Lloyd Honeyghan yesterday vowed to regain his World Boxing Association (WBA) welterweight crown by knocking out Mark Breland next month, but hinted that a loss could bring on his early retirement.

The 29-year-old Briton, in New York to promote his March 3 title bout at London's Wembley Arena, appeared confident of his chances against Breland, who is making his fourth defence of the title he won 12 months ago with a first round victory over South Korean Lee Seung-Soon.

"I really do see and feel in my heart that I will knock him out," said Honeyghan, who relinquished the WBA belt four years ago in a protest against fighting a South African challenger.

Breland, an Olympic gold medalist in 1984, has not gone past five rounds in his last three bouts as he built his record to 26-1-1 and Honeyghan feels the American has never been seriously tested.

"These fights were over in no time and he never gets hit in his fights," said Honeyghan, who over a 10-year career has held the welterweight titles from the WBA, World Boxing Council and International Boxing Federation.

"I could never have won the rally without the help of my manager, Terry Plant, and his fantastic team of mechanics," said the delighted Winston Toyota star.

"The Qatar Rally is well-known as one of the toughest in the Middle East and causes a lot of damage to the cars. Over the two days, our mechanics had to contend with steering and suspension problems which I thought

## King attempts to win war

NEW YORK, Feb. 21. (Reuters) Promoter Don King may have lost the battle but he is waging a furious fight to win the war with an offensive that could indefinitely tie up plans for the next heavyweight title fight.

King's 11-year reign as the heavyweight division's chief promoter took a big hit when James "Buster" Douglas knocked out Mike Tyson in 10th round last week in Tokyo for what has been called the biggest upset in boxing history.

The knockout, Tyson's first loss in 38 professional fights, was widely seen as freeing King's iron grip on the big money heavyweight title.

But King says he has options to promote Douglas' next five fights and if the new champion ignores that claim, the fast talking, spike-haired promoter may launch a \$100 million lawsuit, a spokesman for King told Reuters yesterday.

King flew to Las Vegas yesterday to meet Douglas and his manager, John Johnson, who are being courted by promoter Bob Arum and Mirage Hotel owner Steve Wynn. Representatives of Caesar's Palace and the Las Vegas Hilton also hope to meet the new champion.

On the East Coast, billionaire Donald Trump is taking time from his highly publicized marital problems to weigh in with a pitch for the next Douglas fight to be held in Atlantic City.

"Don is going to speak nicely at first," said King spokesman Al Braverman, referring to the meeting with Douglas and Johnson. "But then he's going to do what he has to do."

He was asked if that meant a possible lawsuit.

"You can bet your life on that," said Braverman, adding that the suit would be "for \$100 million."

"For five years we carried this kid and his trainer," Braverman said of Douglas and Johnson. "He's had bread and butter on his table for his wife and kids even after bad fights when he stunk out the joint," Braverman said.

"After five years of taking care of him he has the attitude, 'what have you done for me lately,'" Braverman said.

King made a bold — some say outrageous — bid to have Douglas' title withheld over what King claimed was a long count after Tyson knocked Douglas down in the eighth round.

After suspending the result for several days, boxing's main governing bodies finally stood up to King and named Douglas undisputed heavyweight champion.

Braverman said that King and representative of number-one contender Evander Holyfield had discussed a deal on the return fight from Tokyo which would have given Holyfield about \$3 million to surrender his right to fight Douglas next. The deal would pave the way for a lucrative Douglas-Tyson rematch with Holyfield guaranteed a bout with the winner.

But Johnson and Douglas, incensed at King for trying to keep Douglas from the title, have said they planned to first defend the crown against Holyfield.

Holyfield's manager, Ken Sanders, said he favours a June date for a bout with Douglas, but the champion's camp does not want to mount a title defence until September.

That bout would be a \$30 million fight, Arum predicted. "If the split would be 75-25 then Douglas would get 22.5 million," Arum said.

If Tyson and Douglas fight, Arum said, "I think you could pay the two fighters 40 million. But Tyson would want parity."

Holyfield's promoter, Dan Duva of Main Events, does not want Arum to have any part of promoting a Douglas-Holyfield fight, his spokesman Ellen Krudys said.

"This is rightfully, legally, King's promotion," he said, adding that "there is a very small chance that Holyfield can be bought off. Evander has been waiting for over a year and a half now."

## Sulayem praises 'invisible' men for Qatar victory

AFTER getting the 1990 Fisa regional series off to a winning start in the NBK Qatar International Rally, reigning Middle East champion Mohammed bin Sulayem praised the efforts of the "invisible" men who helped him to the 17th international success of his career.

"I could never have won the rally without the help of my manager, Terry Plant, and his fantastic team of mechanics," said the delighted Winston Toyota star.

"The Qatar Rally is well-known as one of the toughest in the Middle East and causes a lot of damage to the cars. Over the two days, our mechanics had to contend with steering and suspension problems which I thought

would put us out of the rally.

"But they never gave up and its thanks to them we got such a good result. To the spectators the mechanics are invisible, but to me they are the best in the business," he added after yet another brilliant display alongside experienced Irish co-driver Ronan Morgan underlined Sulayem's position as the Arab world's No. 1 driver.

Sulayem's controlled performance over the punishing 687-km route keeps the UAE driver on course for a fourth regional crown. "It was a great result under the circumstances and gives us a tremendous boost for the rest of the series," he added.

While many of the region's

leading drivers crashed out of the rally behind him, Sulayem powered his Winston Toyota Celica GT-4 to a hard-earned but convincing victory and served notice that his dominance of the sport is set to continue into the 1990s.

"There is no substitute for experience," added Morgan, who has sat alongside some of Europe's finest rally drivers. "You have to nurse a car over courses like the one we faced in Qatar."

"It may look exciting to the spectators to see cars flying high over jumps, but the more time you spend with all four wheels in the air, the less power you have on the ground."



Sulayem (right) and Morgan after winning the rally.



# Record 77 runs scored off one first class cricket over

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand, Feb 21. (Reuters) New Zealand bowler Robert Vance yesterday had a world first-class record of 77 runs scored off one over that included 11 no balls.

Lancaster Park, Canterbury batsman Lee Germon also scored a record 69 including eight sixes and five fours from the over, the penultimate on the match.

Vance, who bowled without a run-up, was acting on order of captain Ervin McSweeney. Wellington was deliberately giving runs away to entice Canterbury to keep chasing for victory to give Wellington a better chance to bowl them out.

Germon who raced from 75 to 160 not out in two overs, was twice caught off no-balls. His partner Roger Ford scored six off the Vance over. The scoring off Vance went NB, 4, 4, 4, 6, 6, 4, 6, 1, 4, 1, NB, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, dot (0), dot (0), 4, dot (0), 1.

In the confusion, with the scoreboard unable to keep up, Canterbury missed a golden chance of victory.

The scores were tied but because Canterbury had two wickets in hand the result was a draw under the competition rules.

Cricket's Bible, Wisden, records that West Indian Sir Garfield Sobers in 1968, and Indian Ravi Shastri in 1984 each hit six sixes off an over.

## Foster beats Kingdom in 60m hurdles

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain, Feb 21. (Reuters) Greg Foster beat world indoor champion Roger Kingdom in the 60 metres hurdles for the third time in a month at the San Sebastian indoor athletics meeting yesterday.

Olympic gold medalist Kingdom started badly and had to fight for second place against fellow American Renaldo Nehemiah, while world outdoor 110 metres hurdles champion Foster won comfortably in 7.47 seconds.

Danny Harris took the 400 metres with a powerful finishing surge, beating a strong field including fellow American Danny Everett, indoor world record-holder over the distance, and Olympic gold medalist Steve Lewis.

Lewis took an early lead but Spain's Cayetano Cornejo edged in front only for Harris to power through on the home straight in 45.89 seconds. Lewis had to settle for third place behind Cornejo.

Everett scored a comfortable win in the 300 metres ahead of Nigeria's Innocent Egbunike.

Jamaica's Merlene Ottey won the women's 200 metres in apparently effortless style, beating Cuba's Lilian Allen and American Lillie Leatherwood.

Moroccan Brahim Boutaib, Olympic 10,000 metres gold medalist, took the 5,000 metres while Britain's Tony Morrell won the 1,500 metres in the year's best time of three minutes 38.70 seconds.

Seattle move past Orlando

ORLANDO, Florida, Feb 21. (AP) Xavier McDaniel had 27 points and 10 rebounds and rookie Dana Barros scored 21 points as the Seattle SuperSonics continued their road resurgence with a 117-102 victory over Orlando.

Seattle led by as many as 19 points in last night's second half, and the Expansion Magic got no closer than 13 en route to their third consecutive loss.

Blazers 104, Hornets 94

Terry Porter keyed a 15-0 run in the last four minutes with nine of his 22 points, leading Portland over Charlotte 104-94.

Result

Seattle	117	Orlando	102
Portland	104	Charlotte	94
Washington	110	Atlanta	94
L.A. Lakers	115	San Antonio	114
Minnesota	97	Houston	92
Milwaukee	110	New Jersey	102
Phoenix	120	Boston	99
Sacramento	99	L.A. Clippers	90

# Kiwis, Indians set for last Test

## Hadlee may make final appearance at home



Hadlee: playing last Test at Eden Park

AUCKLAND, Feb 21. (Reuters) Record-breaking paceman Richard Hadlee could be making his final appearance for New Zealand in a home Test cricket match when the third and final game of the series with India starts at Eden Park tomorrow.

There will be a certain sense of nostalgia tomorrow as it's likely to be the last Test 1 play on Eden Park. Hadlee wrote in a newspaper column today.

Hadlee, who earlier this month became the only player in Test history to take 400 wickets, is widely expected to retire following New Zealand's tour to England later this year.

New Zealand won the first Test against the Indians in Christchurch by 10 wickets. The second game, at Napier, badly disrupted by rain, was drawn.

Hadlee, who will be playing his

82nd Test, could revel in conditions expected to favour seamers.

As insurance, however, New Zealand are expected to play the same side as in the two earlier Tests which means a place for off-spinner John Bracewell.

Fears that Bracewell might not be fit after being struck on his spinning finger while batting in a shell trophy match two days ago have been dispelled.

The bruising has rapidly responded to treatment and Bracewell said: "It feels as good as gold."

India's squad of 13 includes pace bowler Vivek Razdan, who has not played in the two previous Tests.

Out of form batsman Dilip Vengsarkar may give way to uncapped Gurusar Singh who on this tour has batted four times and made a century and two

scores of over 50.

India's options are to leave out leg spinner Narendra Hirwani but retain the left arm off-spinner Venkatapathy Raju who has proved himself handy with the bat.

And that could pave the way for either an extra batsman or pace bowler.

Teams (from): New Zealand: J. Wright (capt.), T. Franklin, A. Jones, M. Crowe, M. Greatbatch, K. Rutherford, I. Smith, R. Hadlee, J. Bracewell, M. Snedden, D. Morrison, S. Thompson.

India: M. Azharuddin (capt.), V. Raman, M. Prabhakar, S. Manjrekar, D. Vengsarkar, S. Tendulkar, Gurusar Singh, Kapil Dev, K. More, S. Venkatapathy Raju, A. Wasson, V. Razdan, N. Hirwani.

# Colombia outlast Soviet Union

LOS ANGELES, Feb 21. (Reuters) Colombia beat the Soviet Union 4-2 in a penalty shoot-out in a World Cup soccer warm-up match yesterday.

The Colombians scored their first three penalty kicks. Soviet goalkeeper Victor Chanov saved the fourth Colombian attempt.

Colombia's goalkeeper Rene Higuita was the hero as he blocked two of the Soviet attempts. He also scored on the last of the five penalty kicks to win the match, the first of a four-team tournament before a crowd of 18,000. Both sides have qualified for the World Cup.

Colombia's head coach Francisco

Maturana said recent death threats against the side's players and coaches had not affected their team's play.

"They haven't affected us at all," Maturana said through an interpreter. "We were pretty calm. We play for the fun of it."

Earlier this month, Colombia's biggest selling newspaper, El Tiempo, said a shadowy group called Lituol, an acronym for Clean Football in Colombia, issued a taped message threatening the lives of players and coaches.

Maturana said there was room for improvement in all aspects of his team's play.

"By no means am I satisfied," he said. "In yesterday's match, the Colombians

played an aggressive first half against a seemingly sluggish Soviet team.

The Soviet players came out strongly after the interval but were still unable to score.

"We should have played the first period the way we played the second half," Soviet head coach Valeri Lobanovsky said.

He brushed off the defeat in the team's debut appearance in the United States.

"We didn't lose. It was zero-zero," Lobanovsky said through an interpreter. "It was just a preparation so it doesn't matter."

Lobanovsky said the team was concentrating on this year's World Cup in Italy.

"I think in the world championship, we'll play better," he said.

# Scotland gives tough Cup warning

GLASGOW, Feb 21. (Reuters) Scotland's soccer chiefs warned the country's World Cup players yesterday that they would be banned from the finals in Italy if they withdrew from future international squads without a valid excuse.

The Scottish Football Association (SFA) threat came after Liverpool's Gary Gillespie and Steve Nicol and Manchester United's Jim Leighton and Brian McClair were not allowed by their clubs to travel with Scotland on a pre-World Cup trip to Genoa 10 days ago.

Ernie Walker, the SFA secretary, said: "The international committee, while reluctant to move the goalposts, so to speak, during the qualifying stages, were determined to do something to improve things."

"It was high time the matter was taken out of the hands of coach Andy Roxburgh, who has tried to wheel and deal, coax and cajole, to get the squad he wanted. That was unfair and unrealistic so we have taken the burden on our shoulders."

The SFA have adopted their tough stance ahead of Scotland's four full internationals and two B matches before their opening World Cup game in Genoa on June 11.

In future, a player who withdraws from a squad on medical grounds must provide an appropriate certificate from his club doctor and, unless medically undesirable to do so, will have to report to the squad assembly point.

Any player who, without the approval of the SFA, fails to report to the assembly point before a match and who plays for his club within five days of the game will automatically be disqualified from the finals in Italy.

# Scots name unchanged rugby side

EDINBURGH, Feb 21. (Reuters) Settled Scotland field the team which beat Ireland and France for their next Five Nations Rugby Union championship match against Wales in Cardiff on March 3. Even the replacements are unchanged.

Though flanker John Jeffrey, centre Scott Hastings and number eight Derek White were injured during the 21-0 defeat of France at Murrayfield last Saturday, all are expected to be fit.

Jeffrey had stitches inserted in a cut ear, caused when French flanker Alain Carminati stamped on his head — an offence which resulted in him being sent off by English referee Fred Howard and later suspended for 30 weeks.

Hastings had a slight scalp wound and white a twisted ankle.

The Scots, showing much improved form against France after struggling to beat Ireland 13-10, will be aiming for another Cardiff victory to set up what would be a dramatic Grand Slam showdown with

rampant England at Murrayfield on March 17.

They have lost on their last two visits to Cardiff Arms Park but had impressive wins in 1984 — the year of their last Grand Slam — and two years earlier when a 34-18 win brought to an end a Welsh run of 27 home championship games without defeat.

While there were some doubts about the Scottish line-out work in Dublin, raising question marks against lock Damian Cronin and Chris Gray, both were impressive against the French, who crumbled under the pressure of playing the last half hour of the game with a man short.

Half-backs Gary Armstrong and Craig Chalmers looked a much more confident pairing against France than they had against Ireland and could prove a real problem for the Welsh, who are reassessing their resources under new coach Ron Waldron after the 34-6 drubbing by England at Twickenham.

# Select Goa XI for Bahrain

A SELECT Goa XI consisting of top Goan players leaves for Bahrain this evening to play two exhibition games. The team is first scheduled to play against a Goa XI football team from Bahrain on Feb 23, and a combined team consisting of Goan players from Bahrain and Kuwait will face a strong Kerala team on the Feb 24. Both the matches are being organised under the auspices of the Sports Ministry in Bahrain and will be contested in one of the main stadiums.

Meanwhile, the event has generated much interest in Bahrain and a large crowd is expected to witness the games. Bahrain has a strong team and the Kuwait players can expect an even contest.

# Haynes hammers England pacemen

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Feb 21. (Reuters) Leg-spinner Robert Haynes rescued Jamaica with an unbeaten 81 from 89 deliveries as England's pacemen were fayed on the second day of the three-day cricket match at Sabina Park yesterday.

Haynes spurred Jamaica from 128 for six to 259 for seven before rain forced an early close. He had also bowled 43 overs of impressive wrist spin to take three for 118 in England's first innings of 405 on the opening day.

Jamaica's revival, in which tail-ender Larry Williams played a vigorous part by hitting 36, saw Devon Malcolm, Angus Fraser and David Capel put to the sword only four days before the first Test against West Indies here.

Jamaican-born Malcolm was speedy but scarcely incisive, his one wicket in 22 overs costing 81. Haynes at one stage hit him for four consecutive fours.

Fraser, normally a trusty exponent of length and line, overpitched and also bowled short as he was hammered for 75 in 14 overs while taking two wickets. Capel, who had contributed to Jamaica's early struggle with two wickets before lunch, strayed in length after the interval and ended up by conceding 60 runs in 15 overs.

Haynes, the only members of Jamaica's side with international experience, having played in the Nehru Cup last October, batted for 150 minutes and struck 12 fours and a six.

When Jamaica's first innings got under way at the start of the morning, Fraser accounted for stand-in captain Delroy Morgan with the best ball of the day in the sixth over.

He could do nothing about the delivery which pitched on off, seamed away and took the edge to wicketkeeper Jack Russell.

Capel struck his two blows when he dismissed Robert Samuels and Nigel Kennedy in successive overs.

Samuels moved too far across and had his leg stump clipped, having made 41 off 45 balls, while Kennedy chased a wishful delivery without moving his feet and was caught behind.

Richard Staple, a 19-year-old debutant, cut at Malcolm but succeeded only in finding Capel for a catch at third man.

Jimmy Adams was run out when he was sent back by Cleveland Davidson and beaten by a superb throw by Alec Stewart from cover to the wicketkeeper's end.

A fine catch at point by Nasser Hussain removed Davidson, but Williams joined Haynes to halt the slump in a seventh wicket stand of 89 in 14 overs.

Messilah tennis

THE Messilah Beach Hotel hosted a tennis tournament last Friday, which lasted the whole day, and attracted a sizeable crowd. Winston cigarettes, in its constant drive to support such activities was co-sponsoring this event.

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# Pakistan set to take on Great Britain

TEAMS representing Great Britain and Pakistan will play for the British Airways Speedbird Trophy, at the KOC Grounds Alhadi, on Feb 25.

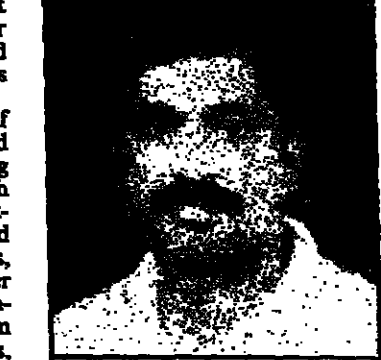
The match will show some of the best cricketers in Kuwait and is likely to be a highly entertaining game. Pakistan's strength revolves around a powerful batting line up that includes Anjum and Qaiser from Hawks, Raees, the powerful Faisal, and Zaheer Jnr from CCK, Asad Baig, Shahbaz and Ashad Pindival from Evergreen. The all-rounders, Tariq and Zagar from Crescent and Khalid from Hawks are also likely to make useful contributions.

To contain this impressive line-up, Great Britain will be relying heavily on Fitzpatrick and Boly to make some early breakthroughs. If this does not happen G.B. could find themselves struggling to keep Pakistan to under 250 from the 45 overs. Sadly Snowden has had to withdraw from the G.B. side.

This puts extra pressure on the other bowlers. Shipton has been successful with his bowling in the past, and Seward will provide a bit of variety to the attack. Hunt, Talbot and Arton-Powell could each make up the remaining overs.

Zagar and Faisal are set to share the new ball when Pakistan take the field, with Khalid, Qaiser and Tariq supporting. The bowlers will be looking for the early dismissal of Shipton who is without doubt one of the most prolific run scorers ever to come to Kuwait.

If Talbot can keep his concentration then he could be set for a long innings, especially if the G.B. side needs stabilising. Hunt started the season impressively and will be dangerous. Clements, Arton-Powell and Seward have all been in the runs for Casuals



Francis: five for 19

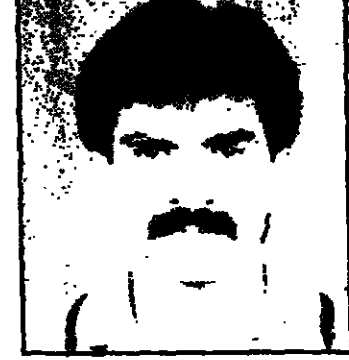
this season, whilst Haseman has had a remarkably consistent series of innings.

Coulson, who rumour has it might keep wicket if McConville fails a fitness test, and Snowden's replacement, Short, can both score quick runs.

A large crowd is expected, and a presentation will be made at the end of the match by the British Airways sales manager, to the winning team and awards given to the Men of the Match on both sides.

The Bank of Kuwait and the Middle East (BKME) knocked out defending champions Union from the Goodyear Cup, sponsored by Abdul Hadi Al Mailem, with a hard fought 13-run win to qualify for the semifinals.

In a low scoring but tense match, played on Friday at the Riqqa Ground, BKME won the toss and decided to bat first. Makeshift openers Sandeep and Salim battled well to put on 51 runs in 7 overs before Salim was adjudged run out for 20. The introduction of Arshad Shams not only slowed down the BKME run rate but also accounted for the wickets of Ayoub for 30, Sethi for 1 and Sandeep for 30. From the other end Abed bowled the consistent Ashfaq for 2 to have BKME



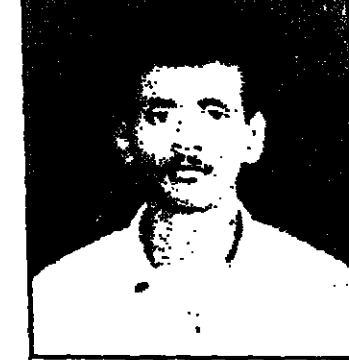
Ishfaq: hit 62

innings in tatters at 63 for 5. Bastaki and James partly repaired the damage taking the score past 100 by putting on invaluable 40 runs. Bastaki mistimed a Jameel delivery to be caught for 25. Rammoohan and James followed soon, Rammoohan bowled by Jameel for 6, while James lbw for 15. Rodney helped himself to a fine 22 under difficult circumstances to help BKME reach 144 all out in 27 overs.

For Union, Arshad and Jameel claimed 3 wickets each conceding 20 and 25 runs respectively, while Abid bagged a victim and BKME batsmen helped along with 3 run outs.

Facing a not so difficult target, Union began their reply with Arshad Shams and Mahboob. These two put on 38 when Arshad Shams had his wickets shattered by Tariq for 22. Saleem joined Mahboob to add 36 runs for the second wicket when Saleem was run out for 19.

Union were comfortably placed at 74 for 2 but the tide changed quickly when Shehzad was lbw to Tariq for 1 and Jameel lbw to Ayoub for 7. Tension mounted as the run rate increased and in their effort to get the runs, Farouq and Saeed were run out to the brilliance of Ronny Jr.



Saman: five wickets

Meanwhile, at the other end, Mahboob who had held the innings together was caught by James off Saleem for a fine 51. Saleem also bowled Rizwan to inch BKME closer to victory. Needing 10 runs off the last over, to win on a better run rate, Abed and Chamsfar managed 2 singles and off the third delivery Abed was bowled to end Union innings and leave BKME victorious by 13 runs.

Tariq and Saleem bowled well to claim 2 wickets each conceding 21 and 30 runs respectively off their six overs.

Sri Lanka Youth (SLY) beat Daiyah Cricket Club by 114 runs in a friendly match at the Salmiya ground on Friday. Sri Lanka, batting first, scored 194 for nine in 25 overs. Captain Madugalle was the top scorer with 39 while Santha hit 33, Suma an unbeaten 33, Krishantha 28, Noel 21 and Palitha 17.

For Daiyah, Arshad Zubair and Khalid got two wickets each. Daiyah in reply were all out for 80 runs in 19 overs. Liaquat was the top scorer with 20 while Khaled hit 21 and Jalal 13. Saman was the most successful bowler for Sri Lanka with five wickets in five overs. Palitha took two wickets while Noel and Sumith got one each.

Two matches were played in the Haji Mohammed Murad Cricket Tournament this week. Sialkot beat Castrol Cricket Club by 83 runs in the first match.

Sialkot batting first scored 139 for the loss of seven wickets in 25 overs. Farooq was the top scorer with 39 while Arshad hit 35. For Castrol David took four wickets for 17 runs.

Castrol were unable to face the accurate Sialkot bowling and the whole side was out for 56. Riaz took six wickets for Sialkot, giving away only 16 runs while Ahmed got two.

In the second match Rams beat Ragisthan by 38 runs. Rams batted first and scored 198 runs with Roy the top scorer with 111 while Mifid hit 30 and Derrick 15.

In reply Ragisthan tried hard to reach the target but could manage only 150 runs. Francis Pereira was the main wicket taker for Rams with five wickets for 19 runs in five overs. Mukesh took two wickets while Roy got one.

In another friendly match at the Salmiya ground, Salmiya beat National Cleaning Club by 28 runs. Salmiya, batting first, scored 115 in 25 overs for the loss of nine wickets. Aslam Fani was the top scorer with 30 while Masood got 20.

In reply NCCC were all out for 87. Liaquat and Fani took three wickets each while Noel and Saman got two each.

Lucky Stars reached the final of the President's Cup with a five-wicket victory over Morning Star. Morning Star batted first and scored 210 and 28.2 overs with Aftab scoring 62, Haider 51 and Yaseen 32. Saman was the most successful bowler with five wickets in five overs.

Lucky Star crossed the target for the loss of only five wickets in the 28th over. Ishfaq played brilliantly for his 62 while Shahbaz scored 42.



Wael scores first goal of tourney

# Kuwait beat Bahrain in opener



Bahraini and Kuwaiti players fight for the ball.

KUWAIT made a winning start to their campaign to win the Gulf Cup soccer tournament with a 1-0 victory over Bahrain at the Kazma Stadium yesterday.

The only goal of the match came through Wael Sulaiman in the 9th minute of the game off a clean pass by Nasser Al Ghanim in the penalty area.

Over 20,000 people watched Kuwait take maximum points in their first match and the hosts now have a chance to double this total when they meet Oman on Saturday.

Adel Abbas almost got another goal for Kuwait with a powerful shot from 22 metres but Bahraini goalkeeper Hmoud Sultan just managed to keep the ball out of the goal.

The Bahrainis had begun the match by launching repeated attacks into the Kuwaiti area but the home defence, marshalled superbly by Kuwaiti goalkeeper Sameer Saeed, stood firm.

Kuwait's early goal boosted the morale of the home team, with veterans Nasser Al Ghanim and Muayyad Al Hadad putting up an excellent show. Al Ghanim, in particular, used his accurate passes to unsettle the rival defence.

The visitors were, however, in no mood to surrender easily although they missed their captain and best defender Adnan Daif through injury. They tried valiantly to get an equaliser. Bahraini goalkeeper Hmoud Sultan, who holds the record of participating in the most number of Gulf Cup matches, was at his best and thwarted a number of Kuwaiti attempts to score.

The Kuwaitis were, however, a little slow in the midfield and kept the ball too long in their



An action shot of the match. (Photos by Ahmed Barouni)

possession resulting in the Bahrainis snatching the ball away from them on some occasions and mounting counter-attacks on the Kuwaiti goal.

Today, World Cup finalists UAE take on a much improved Oman side. The match will start at 3.45 pm at the Peace and Friendship stadium at Kazma. The UAE, after their recent successes, are looking forward to win the prestigious cup for the first time. In the previous tournament, UAE came second after champions Iraq.

On Friday, another ambitious team, Qatar, will play Bahrain. The match will also be played at the same venue and will start at 3.45 pm. Bahrain will be looking to compensate for their opening match defeat in order to keep their title hopes alive, while Qatar, with many recent achievements in football, are also looking to clinch the title for the first time.

## Pakistan, Dutch move into final

LAHORE, Pakistan, Feb 21, (Renter): Pakistan beat defending champions Australia 2-1 and the Netherlands defeated Olympic silver medalists West Germany 3-2 after extra time in semifinal upsets at the World Cup hockey tournament today.

Both the Australians and West Germans had gone into the semifinals with 100 per cent records from their group matches.

Penalty corners proved decisive in both matches. Pakistan converted one as early as the third minute with a switch to right-half Anjum Saeed. Greg Corbett equalised in similar fashion seven minutes later.

Pakistan regained the lead 10 minutes into the second half, Khalid Bashir scoring with a direct corner shot. Delighted Pakistan manager Ishtiaque Khan said: "Our forward line at last played like a well-oiled machine."

Both sides adopted an all-out attacking policy. Greg Corbett and Colin Batch were the most threatening of the Australians, while Pakistanis Waseem Feroze, Shahbaz Ahmad and Tariq Shaikh caused plenty of problems for the opposing defence.

All of the Dutch goals resulted from corners. Floris Bovelander flicked in two to take his tally of goals to seven in the tournament. Bovelander, who has had a knee injury, collected his fifth and sixth goals of the tournament for the former Cup holders, beaten by West Germany in the Seoul Olympic semifinals.

A capacity crowd of 55,000 people at Lahore's National Stadium saw Bovelander open the scoring in the 31st minute when he flicked a shot into the top of the goal.

West Germany had several chances in the third quarter. Dutch goalkeeper Frank Leistra saved from Stefan Blocher and Andreas Keller shot while after a solo effort.

Carsten Fischer had a direct shot from West Germany's third penalty corner saved by Leistra but Fischer finally equalised with a low shot from his side's next penalty corner in the 56th minute.

Five minutes from the end of normal time Fischer was adjudged by Belgian referee Patrick van Boven to have saved a flick shot from Bovelander with too high a stick.

The Germans protested in vain and Dutch captain Marc Delissen converted the penalty stroke for his fifth goal of the tournament. Fischer equalised again for West Germany, from another corner, two minutes later.

But Bovelander gave the Dutch the winner in extra time with another flicked corner shot.

England and the Soviet Union won their classification matches to join the semifinalists as automatic qualifiers for the next World Cup in 1994.

England, silver medalists at the last World Cup, achieved their best win of the tournament, beating France 4-0.

All their goals came in open play with Nick Thomson and Robert Cliff scoring in the first half. Sean Kerly, one of the top marksmen at the Olympics, added two more in the second half.

The Soviet Union beat Spain 2-1 with goals by Victor Deputatov in the first half and Vitali Holopov early in the second.

Ignacio Escude, the tournament's top scorer, collected Spain's consolation goal, and his eighth of the event, two minutes from time.

Tomorrow's games:

9th-12th place playoffs — India vs Canada, Argentina vs Ireland.

7th-8th place playoff — Spain vs France.

5th-6th place playoff — England vs Soviet Union.

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## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Kuwait Trophy

AJAZ and Mansoor will lead the Kuwait teams in the Kuwait Cricket Trophy on February 25, being played at the Ahmadi grounds on the occasion of the Kuwait National Day. The Kuwait Cricket Trophy is being organised by Morning Star cricketers and the organisers have named the two teams and also an airlines ticket to Pakistan for the Man of the Match.

Kuwait Red: Ajaz Ahmed capt; Arshad Shams, v. capt; Shahid Butt; Amin Ahsan; Abdul Razzaq; Aqsool Ashraf; Shabaz Ahmed; Zulqurnain; Mansoor Jr; Rafiq; Inam Ul Haq; Bader Munir.

Kuwait Green: Mansoor Khan, capt; Mansoor Ahmed, v. captain; Pervaz Aslam; Nasir Ahmed; Zabeeruddin Baber; Rashid Ansari; Rafiq Butt; G. Hader; Anjum Raza; Sohail Asad; Qayyum Majed; Mohammed Iqbal.

The match will commence at 0900 am and all players should report at

08.45 am. Mansoor Hasan, manager for Pakistan International Airlines will inaugurate the match. All cricketers and fans welcome to witness this match. The prize distribution will be held on the same day at Kurwait Continental at 8.30 pm. Vice-chairman Ashraf Khan will be the chief guest.

### Festival cricket

A MUCH awaited festival cricket match of veteran cricketers of expatriates community living in Kuwait, will be played at KCL Feb 25 to mark the National Day of Kuwait. P.K. Merwah has donated the cups for winners and losers in the memory of his late father C.L. Merwah. The match which is organised by Kuwait Cricket League will be played between KCL Patron's and KCL President's teams.

Patron's team: Ashraf Khan (capt); Yahya; Choudhary Younis; Ahmed Hassan; Jit; N. Ali; A. Kalam; Ch. Javed; Ravi; Bharti; A.K. Gupta; Sood; and M.M. Joshi. President's team: S.S.N. Ganju (capt); P.K. Merwah; Rajpal; B.N. Malhotra; Khullar; Benjamin; Aurora; Sethi; Mansoor Hussain; Mustaf; Malik; Nazim Farooqi; K.H. Afzal; Salim Parvez and Jaffer Beg. The match will start at 9 am, all the players are requested to reach the ground at 8.45 am. A large number of families are expected to witness the match.

### KPBL schedule

Friday, Feb 23  
7:30 am — Kay & Associates vs KHC-Bayan  
9:00 am — KRP vs Trico  
10:30 am — EEI-Burhan vs Al Ghanim  
12:00 pm — KPBC vs Overland

Sunday Feb 25  
7:30 am — EEI-Burhan vs KRP  
9:00 am — KPBC vs Kay & Associates  
10:30 am — Trico vs Nissan Al Babbain  
12:00 pm — KHC-Bayan vs KDD

### Ida tourney

IN the opening ceremony of Seventh Ida Memorial Football Tournament, organised by Goa Cultural Association, Al Oshman play Santos Sports club at 6:30 and Breeze play Blue Wings at 8:30 tomorrow. Both matches on 'A' ground.

### Bridge

RESULTS of the Barclay Bridge Tournament (2nd week) games played on Sunday at the Regency Palace:

N/S  
1. Rima & Fouad Farah  
2. Stanley Drexler & Carsten Bus  
3. Bianca Moussali & Ahmed Tawil E/W

1. Mamdouh Sabri & Sherin Basyouni  
2. Salim Ali & George Massoud  
3. Lollo Muthwaite & Peter Harris

Results of the Messiah Beach Ladies Club game played on Monday:

1. Nahil Akel & Lollo Muthwaite  
2. Hala Khouri & Nuha Khalaf  
3. Jamila Akel & Nuha Khalaf

The Regency Bridge club will be holding the end of season tournament at the Regency premises tomorrow at 3.00 pm.

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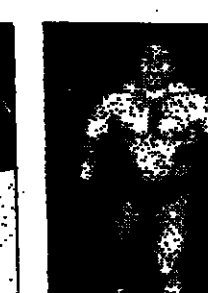
GAMMA SINGH India



Bull Dog-England



ALI SHAN-Pakistan



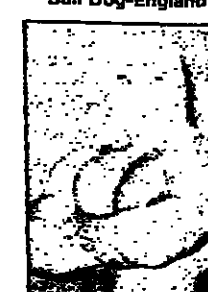
ARABIC IRAQIAN LION



MALCOLM HARDMAN England



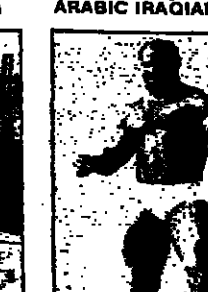
ANGEL OF DEATH Canada



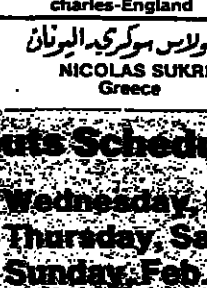
WHITE ANGEL-U.S.A.



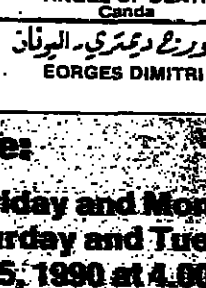
LARRY CAMERON U.S.A.



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NICOLAS SUKRI Greece



EORGES DIMITRI Balkans



ASHENOFF RUDY KONA, U.S.A.



KASUL MARTIN England



FRANCISCO FLORES GARCIA U.S.A.

### Boats Schedule:

On Wednesday, Friday and Monday, Feb. 21, 23 and 26, 1990 at 6.30 pm.

On Thursday, Saturday and Tuesday, Feb. 22, 24 and 27, 1990 at 6.30 pm.

On Sunday, Feb. 25, 1990 at 4.00 pm.

Tickets available at Kazma Club-Adailiya.

Prices of Tickets: KD. 2, 3, and 5.

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Published by:  
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Editor-in-Chief  
Ahmed Al Jarrah

Editorial Office:  
Airport Road, Shuwaikh.  
P.O. Box 2270,  
13023 Safat, Kuwait.

Telex:  
22332 KT

Telephones:  
4513566 (main lines)

Advertising:  
4516325/7

Annual Subscriptions:  
Individual KD. 10  
Corporate KD. 20  
Institutional KD. 30  
Overseas KD. 40  
Single copies KD. 1  
Tel: 4516325/7